



# **SASKATCHEWAN**

**"The Bread Basket of Britain"**

**Welcomes the Imperial Conference**

**A Synopsis of the wealth and  
potentialities of a vast province  
within the Empire**

**July**

**1932**



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# *The Prairies*

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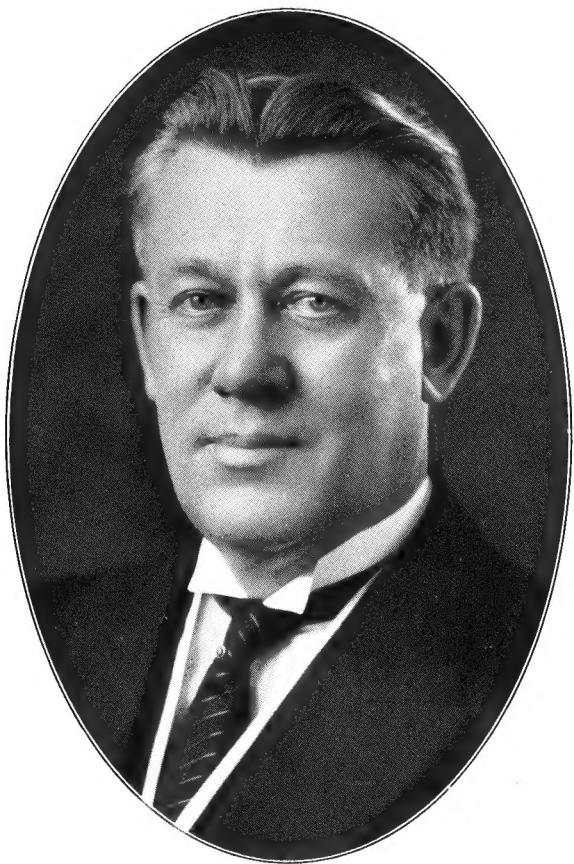
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These are the *Gardens of the Desert*, these  
The unshorn fields, boundless and beautiful,  
For which the speech of England has no name—  
The Prairies. I behold them for the first,  
And my heart swells, while the dilated sight  
Takes in the encircling vastness. Lo! they stretch  
In airy undulations, far away,  
As if the ocean, in his gentlest swell,  
Stood still, with all his rounded billows fixed,  
And motionless forever. — Motionless? —  
No—they are all unchained again. The clouds  
Sweep over with their shadows, and, beneath,  
The surface rolls and fluctuates to the eye;  
Dark hollows seem to glide along and chase  
The sunny ridges. Breezes of the south!  
Who toss the golden and the flame-like flowers,  
And pass the prairie-hawk that, poised on high,  
Flaps his broad wings, yet moves not—ye have played  
Among the palms of Mexico and vines  
Of Texas, and have crisped the limpid brooks  
That from the fountains of Sonora glide  
Into the calm Pacific—have ye fanned  
A nobler or a lovelier scene than this?

—WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT.

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DR. J. T. M. ANDERSON  
Premier of Saskatchewan

# *WELCOME*

## *To the Overseas Delegates to the Imperial Conference.*

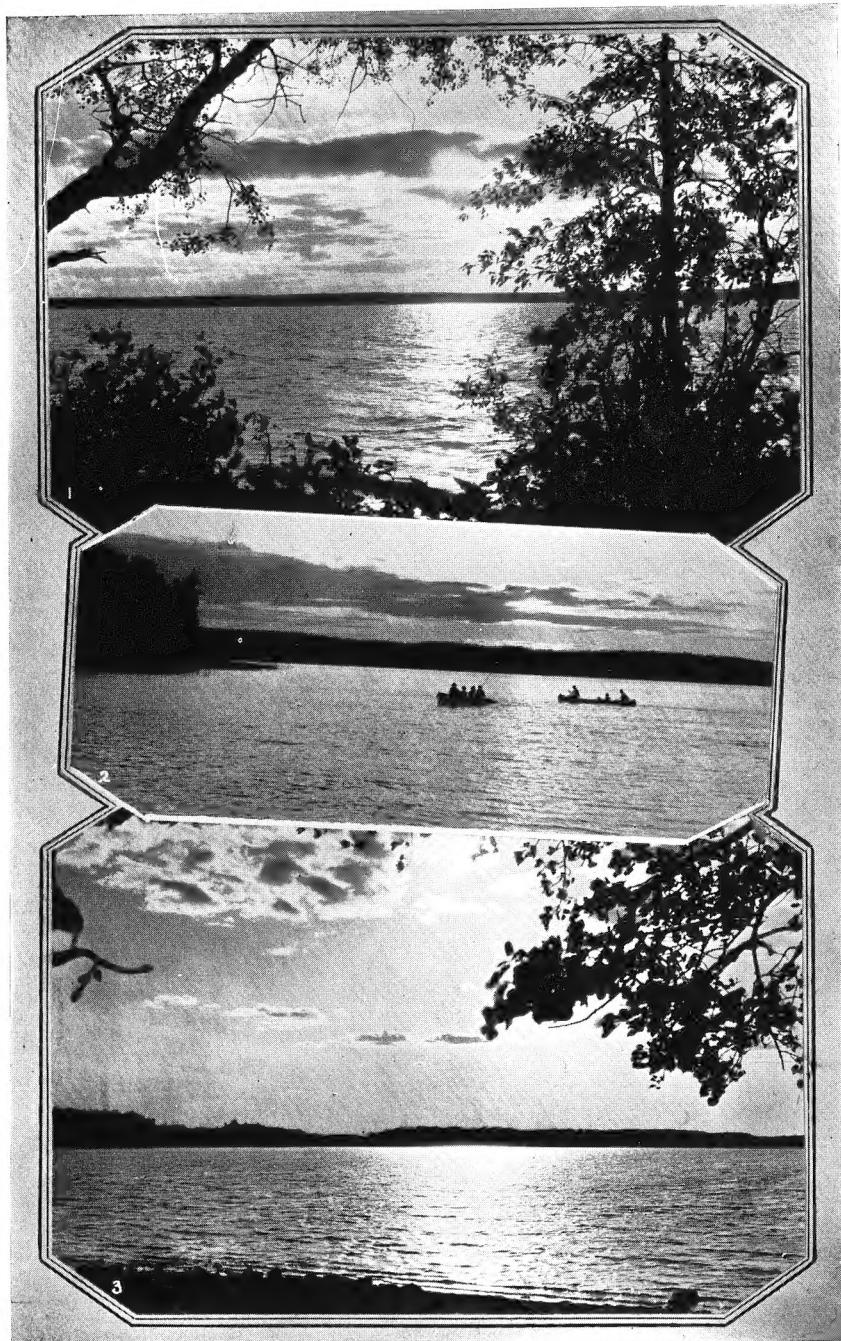
**W**HILM an enthusiasm born of confidence in your wisdom and knowledge, and in your ability to find practical solutions of the grave and vital problems which it will be your office to deliberate, and in your determination to consider those problems from an Empire standpoint and with attention to the cementing in social well-being of those bonds of Empire already so strong in sentiment, the Government and People of the Province of Saskatchewan welcome you to the capital city of the Dominion.

We realize the immensity of the task before you and we appreciate the responsibility that is yours. We believe that upon the result of your work depends the welfare of the Mother land and of the whole Commonwealth and we look to you for guidance out of the economic maze in which we all have become involved. We know that the world awaits with anxiety your decisions decisions that will have an influence wider than the bounds of our Empire and will reach through the strata of commerce deep into the affairs of mankind. It may well be they will prove a long stride towards the practical recognition by the nations of the earth of their interdependence, and towards the joining of all the peoples in mutual co-operation. Believing and knowing all this we have faith that that "genius of race" which built the Empire and which you represent will, at this epochal time as in past times of distress and bewilderment, point out the way to safety and prosperity and the happy fulfilment of the destiny which we believe to be ours.

Saskatchewan pledges herself to do her part towards the fostering of trade within the Empire. She will shoulder her share of accommodation, and compromise if any be found needful. With earnest willingness she will devote her energies to, and invite the co-operation of her sister Dominions and the Mother land in, the development of her great wealth in natural resources. Here are uncounted stores of precious and base metals, areas unique in the world in extent and richness of coals, clays, abrasives and commercial chemical deposits, water powers capable of furnishing the "white fuel" for all enterprises, and forests covering thousands of square miles all awaiting development and as yet almost untouched. Her enormous agricultural capacity will be known to you all and the achievements of the past afford a sufficient guarantee of the possibilities of the future. In the pages following we have noticed very briefly and incompletely the more important items of our endowment and the directions in which the promise of our future lies. With these and with a people second to none in energy, fortitude and initiative we attend your counsels offering our help, perhaps not without anxiety, but strong in the belief that "in the multitude of counsellors wisdom will be found" and that good-will and team work will triumph over all our difficulties.

With faith in the gathered wisdom and skill of your body, with hope for a happy issue to your counsels, and with our prayers for the Divine guidance in your deliberations, again we welcome you.

A large, flowing cursive signature in black ink. The signature reads "J.M. Anderson". The "J" and "M" are particularly prominent, with the "J" having a long, sweeping loop. The "A" in "Anderson" is also large and elegantly written.



1. White Bear Lake, Carlyle, Sask.      2. Madge Lake, near Kamsack, Sask.  
3. York Lake, near Yorkton, Sask.

## *Saskatchewan*

**S**ASKATCHEWAN, the Province, was created by Act of the Dominion Parliament on September 1, 1905, and is thus, with her sister Province, Alberta, youngest member of the Canadian Confederation.

During the span of her existence as a Province, Saskatchewan has recorded virtually unparalleled progress, particularly in agriculture, her basic industry, which has given her a position of pre-eminence among Canadian provinces. Setbacks she has had (as what province, state or country has not?) but each has served but as the starting point of a new period of aggressive development — for the Spirit of the West is essentially optimistic, and the people of the West wisely patient in adversity, quick to respond to altered conditions and eager to exploit new fields of economic endeavour. "The glory of youth, glows in her soul". . . . . And it is in the perspective of her comparative youth that the progress and achievements of the Province must be seen to be appreciated properly.

In the twenty-six years since her creation, Saskatchewan, from relatively insignificant beginnings, has advanced to third place among Canadian provinces in population, to second place in agricultural wealth, and to first place in the value of her agricultural lands, implements and machinery. She ranks first in production of wheat, rye, oats and flax, under normal conditions; is first in horse-breeding, first in quantity of commercial clay resources, and first in natural production of sodium sulphate. Saskatchewan has more rural telephones per capita than any other country of the world with the possible exception of Sweden. More significant and impressive still for so recently-organized a province, Saskatchewan ranks first of Canadian provinces, by virtue of the fact that she has the lowest mortality from tuberculosis, while her general death rate is the lowest of any country in the world recording vital statistics.

In other directions, too, Saskatchewan takes prominent position among Canadian provinces. She ranks second in railway mileage, second in number of telegraph offices, and second in production of barley. Carrying the tally still further, Saskatchewan is third in volume of coal reserve, third in poultry population, and third in aggregate wealth. In per capita wealth, Saskatchewan ranks third in the Dominion, while her per capita debt and general taxation are lowest of the western provinces.

Heretofore, the story of Saskatchewan's progress and development has been the story of the progress and development of agriculture. It is, therefore, an epic of the soil. Saskatchewan entered upon her career as a province with her destinies apparently indissolubly linked with those of her basic industry, agriculture. Her fertile soil attracted a thrifty and industrious agrarian population, inured to hardship and impelled by that "land-hunger" which through the ages, has inspired migration. Indeed, throughout the history of the province, immigration has been confined largely to, and (whenever possible) selected largely from, that particular type which, sprung from the soil, is capable of adapting itself to such

pioneer conditions as rural Saskatchewan presents, and of transforming erstwhile wilderness into "smiling and fruitful plain". They have experienced their trials and tribulations. Difficulties have been faced with courage and, with courage, surmounted, the evidence is in the amazing results achieved in so short a lifetime. Past triumphs over circumstances minatory of disaster and imperilling their very existence, furnish the background for that "will to win through" so characteristic of the people today, and for that inspiration which maintains their confidence in the ultimate greatness of the province they have made their own, in the face of present adverse circumstances. The solidarity of the people in adversity, their invincible faith in the heritage which is theirs, provide conclusive evidence of the absolutely sound position of the province — for Saskatchewan's greatest asset — her people — are demonstrably sound.

The first cycle of Saskatchewan's existence, as a province, has been agricultural. The second, upon which we are now entering, promises to be industrial — and diversified. It is significant that her twenty-fifth birthday should have been marked by an industrial expansion which attracted the attention of the financial and business world. It is significant also that her chief birthday gift was the return of her lands and natural resources which, by terms of the Autonomy Act of 1905, had been retained by the Dominion Government. It is significant also that the close of the first quarter-century should have witnessed outstanding mineral discoveries in the province's northern territory and potentialities which, through lack of transportation facilities, heretofore were known only to the occasional prospector and trapper. These discoveries have proved conclusively that, lying beyond the settled portion of the province is a vast area of incalculable wealth, rich in timber, bestrewn with lakes and watered by streams teeming with fish of commercial varieties, awaiting but the magic wand of capital and the essential transportation facilities to give its treasures to the province and to the world at large. Great unharnessed water-powers, future sources of unlimited electrical energy, have been located in the rivers of Saskatchewan's northland. It is significant, too, of the transition from the first to the second cycle of development, that it saw completion of the first hydro-electric plant within the confines of Saskatchewan from which power now is being supplied to great mining projects adjacent to the Saskatchewan-Manitoba boundary. It saw, too, tremendous impetus given to power expansion in the settled portion of the province, where high-tension transmission lines now ramify to serve a multitude of communities. Railway branch line programmes contemplated and projected, testify to the interest and faith of the great railway companies in the future of the province. Despite general curtailment necessitated by adverse world conditions and local unprecedented drought conditions the expansion still goes on in preparation for the resurgence of normalcy, and in anticipation of a greater era of progressive, diversified development than the province yet has known.

The trend of industrial development in the settled portion of the province is fairly well-defined despite a temporary halt, in certain branches, symptomatic of, or enforced by, the prevailing world depression. It indi-

cates that the process is following natural lines and, more or less, has been progressive and continuous since the early days, because based, primarily, on the natural resources of the province

Originally, the most easily accessible (and most valuable) resource was the prairie soil and, naturally, it was the first to be exploited as civilization marched westward. Upon it, the great industry, agriculture, has been erected, but, as the province grew in population, and as knowledge grew of what was hidden beneath the soil, other industries started to rear infant heads amid the prairie farms. Clay and coal resources were uncovered and steps taken for their utilization; means were found for the exploitation of the volcanic ash deposits, and for establishment of an industry based on the sodium sulphate content of the alkaline lakes which dot the central plains. As the province expanded northward into the vast forest area, bringing the teeming lakes within easier reach of railheads, fishery industries were developed in addition to the fur industry which had been flourishing more or less without intermission, from the advent of the Hudson's Bay Company in the mid-seventeenth century.

Even agriculture, the basic industry, has witnessed great changes within the last twenty-six years. There had been a gradual transition from straight grain to mixed and diversified farming — a transition which events of the past two years have done much to accelerate, the objective being to inject some stability into an industry which, exposed to many hazards, prey to vagaries of weather, to crop-destroying insect pest, such as grasshoppers, and disease, such as rust, has suffered (but survived) several rude shocks. Prior to 1890, Saskatchewan's production never had exceeded four percent of the Canadian wheat crop; but in the normal year Saskatchewan now produces more than 50 percent of Canada's wheat, 40 percent of Canada's oats and 33 percent of Canada's barley. There are more than 3,000,000 head of live stock and 9,000,000 poultry in the province, while honey production is advancing apace; all of which testifies to the strides the agricultural community has taken toward mixed farming and diversification. The entire acreage in crop in 1905 (the year, be it remembered, Saskatchewan was created a province) was a little over 2,000,000 acres. Today, more than 22,000,000 acres are under crop. Twenty-six years ago, Saskatchewan harvested what was then considered a huge crop of 26,000,000 bushels, whereas, in a recent year, the wheat crop aggregated over 320,000,000 bushels and her average production of wheat in the last five years has exceeded 230,000,000 bushels. The 1905 crop was garnered off 60,000 farms; that of today, off more than 117,000 farms averaging 320 acres in extent.

Industries other than agriculture, as previously stated, have received considerable attention and impetus in recent years. Saskatchewan's strategic position as a distributing centre for merchandise and in relation to the now completed Hudson's Bay Railway has been directly responsible for the recent advent of large branch factories with several allied industries. New activity has been noted in the industries based upon Saskatchewan's great resources of lignite coal, commercial clays, sodium sulphate, bentonite and

volcanic ash. Government assistance has been given unstintingly to those industries whose development redounds to the common good of all residents of the province, with marked and beneficial results. According to estimates of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics there were in Saskatchewan, in 1925, some 650 manufacturing establishments with a total capitalization of \$32,-000,000, a payroll of approximately \$6,000,000 and an annual production valued at \$40,000,000. Most recent estimates reveal the fact that, within the last five years, industrial investment, payroll and production have increased more than 100 percent with every indication that the same rapid expansion will be experienced when industry's wheels regain their former momentum. Saskatchewan, admittedly, is in her infancy industrially — but the infant is amazingly healthy and capable of spectacular growth.

Saskatchewan's needs have increased with the growing complexity of her workaday life. These have been met, occasionally anticipated, by successive Provincial Governments with the result that Saskatchewan's agricultural, health and general social legislation ranks with the most advanced on the statute books of any country.

This pamphlet seeks briefly to emphasize the accelerative growth of Saskatchewan in relation to her comparative youthfulness. It seeks to conjure up a vision of a courageous, industrious, expanding community carving an ever-increasing estate from primeval wilderness, retrieving more and yet more of the gifts which Bounteous Nature generously bestowed but which are recoverable only at the expense of honest, unremitting toil. It merely skims the surface of achievement to bare sufficient evidence to support the contention that, as Saskatchewan must be seen and judged in the light of her youth, the province has much positive accomplishment to justify the pride, the faith and aspirations of her people.

If greater detail is sought it will be found in the annual reports and other publications of the various Government departments as to which enquiry should be made of the Commissioner of the Bureau of Publications at Regina.



A Saskatchewan Farm Home

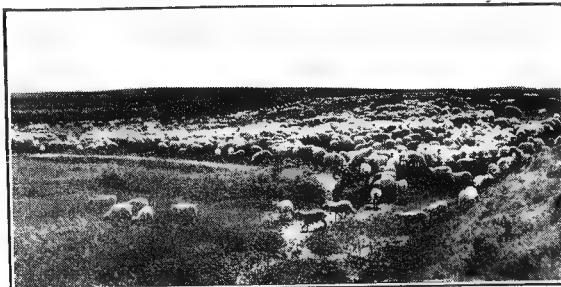
## *Agriculture*

THE PRAIRIES are one of Canada's dominant physical features. Their amazing expanse as they sweep before the eye to far horizons, the very unexpectedness of their beauty, impress the transient visitor as they stamp the character of those who dwell upon them. Their swift transition from buffalo-hunting grounds of the red man to far-flung wheat fields of the white, is, perhaps, the most romantic passage of modern economic history.

Durant says in his recent volume "Adventures in Genius":

"Essentially there are only two fundamental and pivotal events in human history; the Agricultural Revolution, in which men passed from hunting to tillage and settled down to build homes, schools and civilization; and the Industrial Revolution which threw millions and millions of men . . . out of their homes and their farms into cities and factories."

Saskatchewan, then, within its lesser sphere, has reproduced and is reproducing these epochal revolutions. The Agricultural Revolution started with the advent of the white men. The Industrial Revolution may be said to have been definitely launched immediately prior to the return of the Natural Resources to provincial control.



**Sheep are Profitable in Saskatchewan**

The province of Saskatchewan embraces the heart of the prairie region of Canada and the major portion of its choicest agricultural lands. With the prairies, therefore, Saskatchewan's destinies are inextricably linked—a fact which even cursory study of the province's agricultural development renders but the more impressive.

Agriculture in Saskatchewan rests upon an exceptionally generous endowment of arable lands. These, in one compact area, cover practically the whole southern half of the Province. The agricultural belt in Saskatchewan may be considered as limited, roughly, in the north by the 54th parallel of latitude. Beyond this, however, there is a considerable amount of good agricultural land but it occurs in irregular areas due to outcroppings of the rock structure, and the numerous lakes and rivers. Luxuriant gardens about trading posts and mission stations in these northern areas testify to the fertility of their soil.



Raspberry Bushes on the Farm of A. J. Pierce, Tisdale, Saskatchewan



Boys' and Girls' Calf Show at Yorkton, Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan's estate in arable lands is estimated at 58,000,000 acres and it has been stated that the provinces' most valuable natural resource is the "top six inches" of soil on those 58,000,000 acres. Confirmation is not far to seek. Despite its comparative youth, Saskatchewan is Canada's leading wheat producing province, leads all provinces in the value of its agricultural lands, and also in the value of its farm implements and machinery. It also leads in per capita agricultural production, and ranks second in gross agricultural wealth.

It has been said that "Industrial and commercial prosperity is dependent in a major degree on the land" and, whether or not there be exceptions to the rule, the fact is easily demonstrable that, so far as Saskatchewan is concerned and with it the Dominion of Canada, the economic fabric of the whole is dependent predominantly upon the productivity of the soil of the Western Prairies. Good crops, good market prices have immediate reflex in the more highly industrialized centres; good crops, good prices mean good times for all Canada—and poor crops conjoined with low prices mean general depression.

Saskatchewan's prime attraction to settlers has been, and is, the opportunity it presents of wresting an independence from its fertile prairie soil. Settlement, received its initial impulse from the incoming of the Canadian Pacific Railway to the western plains, but even as late as 1900 little more than the advance guard had crossed the threshold. Then, suddenly, the



Large Scale Cattle Raising in Saskatchewan.

prairies gave birth to an agricultural empire. Settlement spread over the face of the prairies with astounding rapidity surpassing even the most spectacular phases of the westward trek of the land-hungry in the United States. A competent American observer has pronounced the pioneer movement in Western Canada to be "the greatest rush for farm lands in the world's history." In 1901, the population of Saskatchewan, largely agricultural then as now, was 91,279, and in that year the total area of occupied farms was 3,833,434 acres of which 2,710,832 acres were unimproved. Within ten years the population had grown to 492,432 while the area of occupied farms had swollen to 28,099,207 acres of which approximately 12,000,000 acres were improved. In 1901, 655,537 acres were sown to field crops; in 1911 the sown area had grown to 9,136,868 acres. At the close of the next cycle of ten years (1921) despite the intervention of the War which retarded settlement but stimulated production and cultivation, the area of occupied farms had



A Garden at Melville, Saskatchewan.

increased to 44,022,907 of which more than 25,000,000 acres were improved and 17,822,208 acres sown to field crops. Referring to this development, a Dominion Government official has stated:

"The foregoing figures clearly show the remarkable development of agricultural lands in Saskatchewan. It is the story in cold figures of one of the most remarkable agricultural developments the world has ever seen. On the other hand, it reveals exceptional possibilities for further expansion. Less than 74 per cent. of the available agricultural land is occupied. Making allowance for the natural selection of the best farm areas, there are still millions of acres of choice agricultural lands available for the landseeker. The area occupied has by no means been developed to the limit of its capacity. This area alone is capable of much greater field crop production, while intensive farming can only be said to have made a fair start."

Though this statement was made in 1925, it is true today.

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#### SASKATCHEWAN:—

has an area of 251,700 square miles;  
extends 760 miles from south to north, and 393 miles from east to west;  
is larger than any country in Europe except Russia;  
has 15,471,441 acres of surveyed farm lands still undisposed of;  
has a forest belt 100 miles wide stretching across the province from east to west;

## *Agricultural Production*

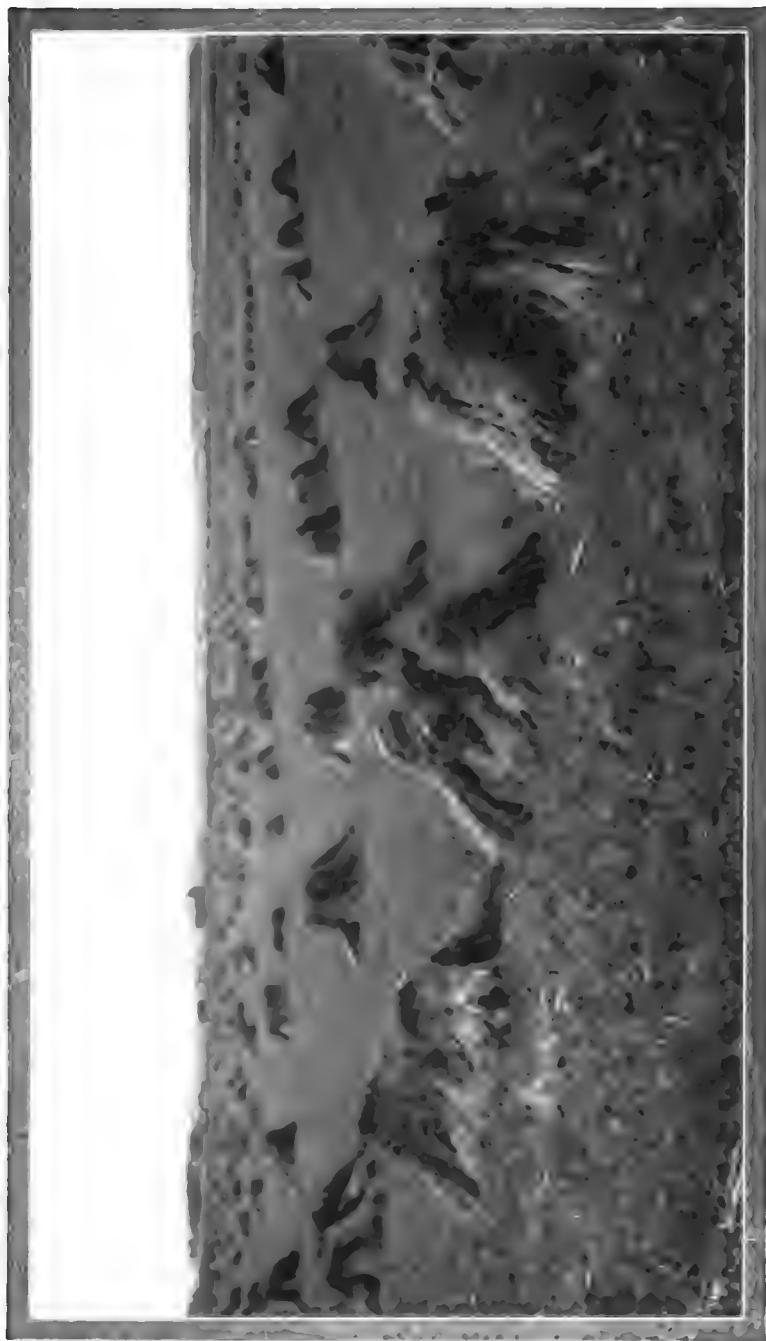
**W**HAT being the chief field crop of Saskatchewan and that upon which the Province's world-wide reputation rests, it may be of interest to give a brief history of wheat production in Canada and in Saskatchewan.

The first bushel of wheat ever produced in Canada was grown at Annapolis, Nova Scotia, in 1605. That same date and place witnessed the setting up of the first water wheel which turned the first millstone to grind the first bushel of wheat ever ground, by mechanical means, in Canada. By the end of the first half-century after that historic event, 11,000 acres of land were under wheat.

Wheat growing gradually passed westward and into Upper Canada and, in 1870, as much as 85 percent of all the wheat produced in Canada was grown in Ontario. To 1880, the wheat crop rarely exceeded 25,000,000 bushels and imports exceeded exports by 9,000,000 bushels.

The first wheat grown in Western Canada was raised in the neighborhood of Fort Garry by the Selkirk Settlers who reached York Factory now Port Churchill, western Canada's new sea-port and rail terminal on Hudson's Bay, September 24, 1811, and the Red River in August of the following year. Their pioneer efforts in husbandry barely succeeded against local discord resulting from trade rivalry, and elemental opposition. The first forced temporary dispersion of the little colony and threatened its extinction. Surviving this vicissitude, the settlers resumed their agrarian pursuits on the Red River only to be beset with disaster not of human origin. It is related that the winter of 1825-26, perhaps the most severe ever recorded in the western country, was followed by disastrous floods in the spring which swept away practically every home in the settlement and most of the cattle. Courageous spirits among the settlers adventured into the swirling waters to recover some food and seed grain — and it is further recorded that the "saturated land proved generous with the seed entrusted to it" when the flood waters receded. It happened, however, that this visitation was not without benefit to the colony. In the previous Fall, the settlement had been overrun by swarms of mice which "infested the stacks, ate up everything, even the dry stubble, and anything in which they could set their teeth," invading the buildings and devouring large quantities of foodstuffs. When the flood subsided, it was found that this "Egyptian plague" had practically disappeared.

The plague of mice and the floods seem to have been the climax of disaster for the colonists for, from that period onward, the settlement enjoyed an era of steady development, and agriculture was definitely established as an industry upon these western prairies. As settlement moved westward it bore the "seed" of agriculture with it, and subsequent history of the territory records the gradual transition from nomadic hunting to settled agrarianism.



A Saskatchewan Grain Field in Stook.

Lord Selkirk had sent out the machinery for a rude gristmill for the colonists but, unfortunately, there was no millwright among the settlers and it was not until ten years later that it was placed in operation. Later Cuthbert Grant, the "Warden of the Plains", attempted to construct a mill run by water, but he proved to be less efficient as an engineer than as a plainsman and, after expending nearly a thousand pounds, he abandoned the project.

In 1885, the first car of western wheat was shipped by the all-Canadian route (the Canadian Pacific Railway) from Winnipeg, and at that stage, the Saskatchewan area began to attract increasing attention.

It is not necessary here to relate in detail the tremendous impetus given to wheat production in Western Canada (particularly Saskatchewan) by the evolution of Marquis Wheat, or the permanence imparted to the agricultural industry by institution of methods of crop rotation and diversification. Suffice it to emphasize that the results are reflected in the comparative tables showing acreage and yield of the chief grain crops in Saskatchewan which follow.

#### WHEAT

Year	Acreage	Yield per Acre	Production in bushels
1905	1,130,084	23 0	26,107,286
1910	4,664,834	15 5	72,666,399
1915	8,523,600	25 2	214,794,720
1922	12,332,297	20 2	250,167,000
1928	13,790,854	23 3	321,215,000

#### OATS

1905	449,936	42 7	19,213,055
1910	2,082,607	30 4	63,315,295
1915	3,200,400	45 9	146,898,360
1922	5,098,104	35 2	179,708,000
1928	4,358,747	35 8	156,043,000

#### BARLEY

1905	32,946	27 1	893,396
1910	238,394	24 5	5,859,018
1915	285,000	32 2	9,462,000
1922	636,456	29 0	18,511,000
1928	1,621,463	27 3	44,266,000

#### FLAX

1905	25,315	15 7	398,399
1910	396,230	7 6	3,044,138
1915	697,000	11 2	7,806,400
1922	466,177	8 7	4,079,000
1928	279,414	9 5	2,654,000

RYE			
1915	7,207	28.1	203,000
1922	900,931	18.0	16,164,000
1928	471,073	17.9	8,412,000

POTATOES			
		ctwt.	
1915	34,885	66.2	2,308,200
1922	55,600	72.2	4,012,000
1928	42,800	71.3	3,052,000

Prior to 1931 the five year average for agricultural revenue was approximately \$322,000,000. There has been an almost tragic falling off due to the well known world conditions as affecting price and to local drought conditions as affecting yield. The figures for 1929, 1930 and 1931 tell the story:

WHEAT			
Year	Acreage	Yield per Acre	Production in bushels
1929	14,445,286	11.1	160,565,000
1930	14,326,000	13.7	196,322,000
1931	14,775,047	8.2	121,000,000

OATS			
1929	4,255,789	16.2	68,944,000
1930	4,531,000	27.7	125,509,000
1931	4,368,735	15.5	67,700,000

BARLEY			
1929	2,228,604	13.8	30,755,000
1930	2,016,000	20.1	40,522,000
1931	1,366,092	10.5	14,340,000

FLAX			
1929	298,302	4.9	1,462,000
1930	431,000	8.0	3,448,000
1931	492,168	3.7	1,820,000

RYE			
1929	641,638	12.9	8,301,000
1930	1,010,000	14.7	14,875,000
1931	510,562	4.7	2,396,000

POTATOES			
1929	41,637	27.6	1,149,000
1930	41,800	68.7	2,872,000
1931	41,732	58.0	2,420,000

A String of Binders at Work.



## *Relief*

The short crops of 1929, 1930 and 1931, culminating in a total failure in some areas in 1931, coupled with world price conditions, resulted in much local hardship and suffering. Speaking of this matter in Saskatoon on April 22, 1932, Premier Anderson said: "the total amount that it will be necessary for the government to provide to look after our people until another crop is reaped will run to over \$20,000,000. . . . Never before in the history of our country has it been necessary to administer relief on such a far reaching scale."

## *Crop Prospects*

At the present time the crop prospect in Saskatchewan is very bright. The 1932 wheat crop will be one of the biggest ever harvested. Other grains will yield in proportion. Fodder is plentiful. Garden products were never better and the necessity to supply food and fodder relief will cease. Our problems will again be those of distribution.



This photograph was taken on Sunday, July 17, 1932, and shows the stand of a field of wheat on ground that was so dried out and blown during the unprecedented drought period of 1931, that not a spear of grain was grown on that ground last year. The grain stands four feet high and is typical of millions of acres now ripening in southern Saskatchewan, the drought area of 1931.

## *Seedtime and Harvest*

THE commencement of seeding operations, since the province was inaugurated, has varied from April 1 to, and including, May 6, the average for the last ten years being April 21. The corresponding average for general seeding operations was April 29. Harvesting operations usually commence about the middle of August, threshing starting about the middle of September or slightly earlier.

### QUALITY PRODUCTION

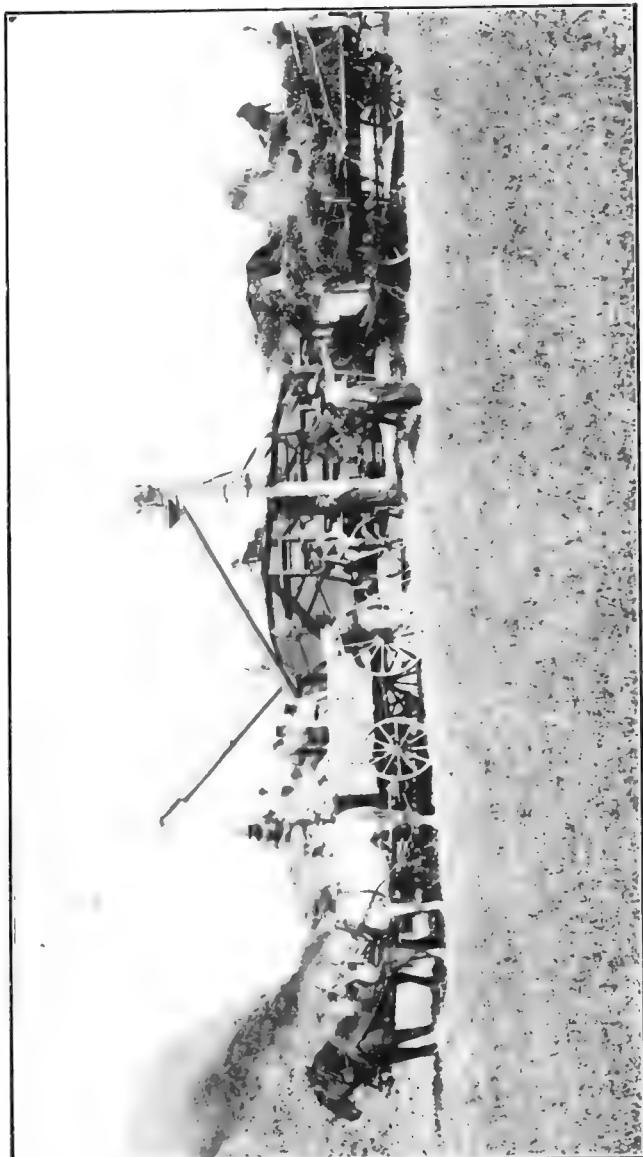
Wheat was the "first love" of the prairie farmer and to Saskatchewan, as previously stated, it has become the symbol of prosperity. While the tables quoted indicate that Saskatchewan leads Canadian provinces easily in quantity production, it is noteworthy that she has attained high position in quality production. Eleven World's Championships for hard red spring wheat have been won by Saskatchewan growers at International Grain Shows while, during the five years 1926 to 1930, inclusive, Saskatchewan won approximately 50 percent of all prizes awarded at these shows for spring wheat — a total of 85 out of 180. At International events during 1930, Saskatchewan won 32 of the 50 prizes offered for competition in the wheat classes.

### DIVERSIFICATION

While wheat is the dominant product of the Saskatchewan farm, the foregoing tables will indicate that other field crops are becoming increasingly important factors in general agricultural production. The appearance of insect pests, plant diseases and noxious weeds in his cereal crops gradually induced the farmer to diversify his operations and his products in his efforts to achieve greater economic stability and, by promoting his own welfare, to contribute to community prosperity. Increasingly large numbers of Saskatchewan farmers have added field and root crops to grains, and supplemented their activities with live stock, poultry and, in many cases, bees. Commodious and substantial buildings to house machinery and live stock have risen within the farm steading, belts of trees and gardens protect and adorn the vicinage of the farm home, much has been done to create an atmosphere of well-being and permanence around farm settlements and generally to enhance the amenities of rural life.

Problems of soil drift have given new impetus to tree planting on prairie farms, the Government's interest in the movement taking the practical course of free distribution of trees from nursery and institutional farms in the province. Indeed, the lesson of the 1931 season when winds, in veritable sirocco, swept the dessicated and pulverized soil from the surface of the plains, has impressed the need for organized tree planting throughout the treeless prairies, and has inspired the Provincial Government to formulate a ten-year tree planting policy involving cultivation of millions

A Threshing Scene.



and millions of seedlings, and their distribution to farmers for the bare express costs.

Recourse of the Saskatchewan farmer to diversification of production has been accentuated and accelerated by the collapse of grain prices on world markets symptomatic of the economic depression of 1930-31. Imbued with a desire never again to be caught "with his eggs all in one basket", so to speak, the Saskatchewan farmer has taken advantage of proffered Government assistance to secure live stock — feeder cattle, breeding stock, sheep and swine — and indications are that straight grain farming will be the exception rather than the rule in the future agricultural development of the province.

In the early days of settlement in Saskatchewan, wild hay was the only variety that could be obtained locally. Now, domestic grasses such as rye and brome, are being successfully grown in all parts of the province, while timothy and alfalfa are gaining a place of considerable importance. During 1930, approximately 700,000 tons of hay and clover, valued at \$5,740,000, were grown, while 11,400 acres were sown to alfalfa and an additional 10,700 acres to fodder corn. Sunflowers also are finding a wide use as silage.

In the growing of vegetables and roots, Saskatchewan has had an experience similar to that in connection with hay production. It has been proved conclusively, that table corn, peas and beans as well as the more common varieties of vegetables, roots and small fruits can be grown successfully.

While the movement towards a better and more stable agricultural economy has been gathering momentum for a considerable period, the introduction of large-scale machinery in the field husbandry of the Province during the last three or four years brought with it a tendency to increase the size of the average farm. For a time, too, there was a trend towards reducing the numbers of live stock kept on the average farm; but these movements suffered a setback with the fall in prices of grain which, as previously stated, taught the Saskatchewan farmer that safety and stability lie in diversification.

Despite this, introduction of the combine harvester-thresher made possible by the wide use of Marquis wheat proved an important factor in the new agriculture of Saskatchewan and its use virtually revolutionized methods and results in those large areas of the province in which wheat-growing constitutes the major, in some cases, the sole productive effort. Where it can be used to advantage, it is estimated that this machine cuts fifty percent off the cost of harvesting and threshing the grain, while it is expected that it will, eventually, obviate the necessity of importing harvest labour from industrial centres, during the normal harvest season. But here, again, the economic depression has had its effect — and, with reduced returns, the economics of horse operation have been iterated and reiterated, restoring interest and adding importance to horse-breeding, in which Saskatchewan leads all Canadian provinces.



### **Grain Elevators at Indian Head, typical of the Saskatchewan Grain Districts.**

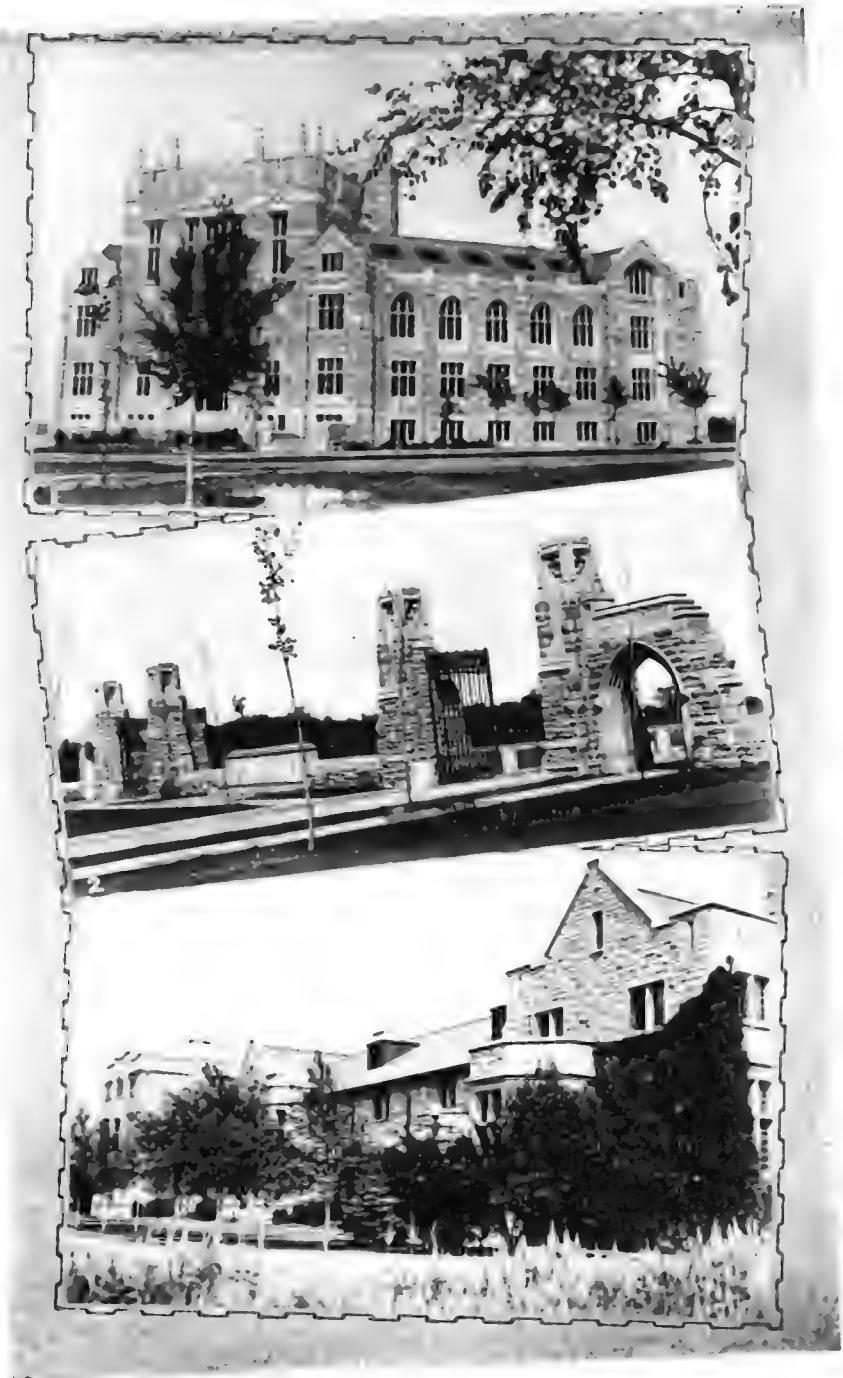


1. Heavy Draft Mares and Colts. 2. Blue Ribbon Beef.  
3. A Dairy Herd. 4. Range Sheep and Lambs.

Further economies in operation together with a general increase in conveniences in, and the elimination of much of the drudgery from, the farm home, is being made possible by the gradual extension of electrical power facilities to rural parts of the province. The Government-owned and Government-controlled, Saskatchewan Power Commission, is embarked upon a provincial power scheme designed ultimately to supply electrical energy, at reasonable rates, to the whole agricultural area.

#### **SASKATCHEWAN:—**

- has 80,000 square miles of mineralized Pre-Cambrian area;
- has leased more than 125,000 acres for natural gas and petroleum exploration;
- has innumerable lakes teeming with fish of sporting and commercial varieties;
- has commercial fisheries with an authorized annual take of 10,000,000 pounds, the partial development producing more than \$500,000 annually;
- has increased in population from 195,000 in 1905 to 921,785 in 1931; has 8 cities, 80 towns, 384 incorporated villages, 302 rural municipalities, 4,917 school districts employing more than 9,000 teachers, and with an enrolment of approximately 240,000 pupils;
- has 132 hospitals and nursing outposts, and 3 sanatoria;
- has the lowest death rate of any country in the world recording vital statistics;
- gives free Sanatorium treatment to tuberculosis patients;
- has the lowest mortality from tuberculosis of any province in Canada;
- has established a Cancer Commission to tackle cancer as a public health problem;
- has established psychopathic wards for the pre-treatment of the mentally afflicted;
- spends annually nearly \$20,000,000 on Education, the Government's contribution representing approximately one-third of total Governmental expenditures;
- is the second province of Canada in railway mileage, having 8,000 miles of steam railway lines with no direct indebtedness for railway subsidies;
- has 2,000 miles of gravel-surfaced trunk-highways;



1. Physics Building.  
2. University Memorial Gates.  
3. Saskatchewan Hall, (Women's Residence).  
(University of Saskatchewan).

## *Dairying*

**R**APID and substantial progress has been made in dairying in Saskatchewan, and already an advanced state of development has been reached.

Practically the whole of Saskatchewan is well suited for milk cows and stock of all kinds, while the northern portion of the agricultural area is pre-eminently a dairying and stock raising country. On nearly every farm there remains a fair proportion of natural pasture in addition to the pasturage afforded in many places by adjacent unoccupied lands, provincial lands and forest reserves.

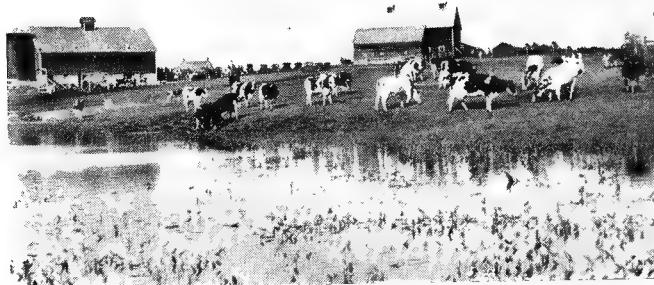
These conditions, important at present, are but temporary. The ultimate success and permanency of dairying is securely based on the heavy black soils which predominate throughout the province, and which are capable of producing great quantities of feed grain, heavy crops of roots, of forages such as rye and grain mixtures of different kinds, and of corn and sunflower for silage. The climatic conditions, likewise, are favourable. The winters, though marked by periods of low temperature, are free from the raw conditions of more humid climates so detrimental to stock. During the summer, also, the nights are cool; a feature conducive to the health and comfort of dairy cattle, besides making the keeping of milk comparatively easy.

The dairy industry of the province, in keeping with other lines of workaday endeavour, has experienced its vicissitudes, but has triumphed invariably over all. On occasions when drought has brought in its train shortage of fodder supplies and shrinkage of local pasturage, the Government has been quick to arrange relief measures whether these involved the shipment of forage into the affected districts or the transference of the cattle to grazing areas.

Under Government auspices, too, an intensive investigation of the dairy industry has been conducted by an internationally-known expert, the resulting report having been made available, as a guide to business methods, to producers and manufacturers.

In 1918, the value of dairy products in Saskatchewan aggregated \$6,051,000. In 1926, the value of dairy production exceeded \$21,000,000. 1930 was an unfavorable year, in many respects, so far as dairying was concerned, yet the total value of dairy products amounted to \$19,896,100.

Despite the fact that drought conditions in the southern part of the province, conjoined to failure of the local grazing pastures, proved a tremendous obstacle to dairy production in the affected area, in 1931 Saskatchewan's creamery butter production was \$16,007,900.



A Mixed Farm in Saskatchewan.



A Saskatchewan Dairy Farm.



A Saskatchewan Farm Home.

## *Horses*

**C**ONDITIONS in Saskatchewan are peculiarly favourable to horse-breeding in which, as previously stated, this province leads the Dominion.

Normally, fine quality grasses, abundant supplies of excellent water, and good climatic conditions may be depended upon, while freedom from epidemic disease is a significant feature. Bronchial or pulmonary disorders are of a light nature.

The three most popular breeds are the Clydesdales, Percherons and Belgians, and the quality of the stock is very high, as consistent successes in Canada and International show-rings conclusively demonstrate. During the last eleven years, Saskatchewan entries in the International Show at Chicago have won the Grand Championship of America for Clydesdales on nine occasions. One Saskatchewan stallion (Wee Donald, Reg. No. 18,204), captured this supreme honour on three consecutive years, (an unparalleled achievement) while, of six Grand Championships for heavy draft horses awarded at the Royal Winter Fair, Toronto, last year, Saskatchewan entries won four, including championships in Percherons and Belgians as well as Clydesdales.

Between 1920 and 1930, ten Saskatchewan live stock exhibits at National and International shows, won a grand total of 1,528 prizes. Of this number, 762 were won at the Toronto Royal, 378 at the Chicago International, 139 at Ottawa, and 145 at Guelph, against the strongest competition from all parts of the North American continent.

While interest in horse raising revived by the necessity of lower production costs, recent organization of a horse-marketing section in connection with the Saskatchewan Horse Breeders' Association, following a survey (inspired by the Provincial Government) of Eastern Canadian markets, offers immediate prospect of expansion of an already important industry.

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### **SASKATCHEWAN:—**

has 200,000 miles of road allowances in the settled area, including more than 8,000 miles of provincial highway and 25,000 miles of main market roads;

issues an automobile license for every eight persons of her population, the total number of licensed vehicles for 1931 being 107,524,

has an automobile assembly plant with a capacity of 100 cars a day, has a telephone for every six persons in urban centres, and one for every eleven persons in rural areas;

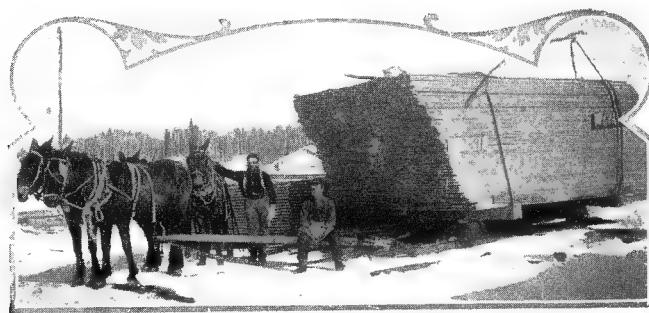
has 63,292 pole miles of telephone lines;

## *Industrial Development*

**T**HIE SPECTACULAR period of industrial expansion which started late in 1927, continuing without diminution during 1928 and into 1929, came to an enforced halt in many lines of activity in 1930 and 1931, in common with industrial development the world over. This was due, of course, not to causes inherent in the industries themselves, nor was the effect confined to Saskatchewan alone. The causes were world causes; their effects world-wide.

That period of expansion, however, and the movement towards industrialism it inspired in Saskatchewan, has placed the province in a position to take immediate advantage of the upward swing of world conditions. Great wealth of natural resources remains to be exploited; tremendous expansion is possible in the industries, already established, which are based upon these natural resources. The soil that has produced such outstanding crops, live stock, dairy and poultry products retains, unimpaired, the essentials for the reproduction of similarly outstanding products, and under better farming practice is capable of still greater productivity. There are present all the elements of rapid and spectacular recovery. With the development of new and the expansion of existing industries, and the growing trend towards mixed farming on the part of the agrarian community, a greater stability is being given to the economic structure of the province which will enable it, in future, the better to withstand, and to recover from, economic vicissitudes.

1928, saw several new, major, industries established in Saskatchewan and while, during the past year, the increase in this respect has been small, the natural increase in population has been responsible for a considerable growth in many established industries and the introduction of several minor industries which, though individually of little account, collectively make a substantial contribution to the industrial life of the province. Among the more rapidly growing industries of the province are the flour milling and cereal product industries which, in some instances, have virtually doubled their capacity. Agricultural expansion with its new orientation towards mixed farming, is demanding more packing houses, creameries, cold storage plants, fruit houses, canneries and other facilities. The growth of the light



Lumbering in Northern Saskatchewan.



A Saskatchewan Sodium Sulphate Plant.



Mining Saskatchewan Lignite Coal.



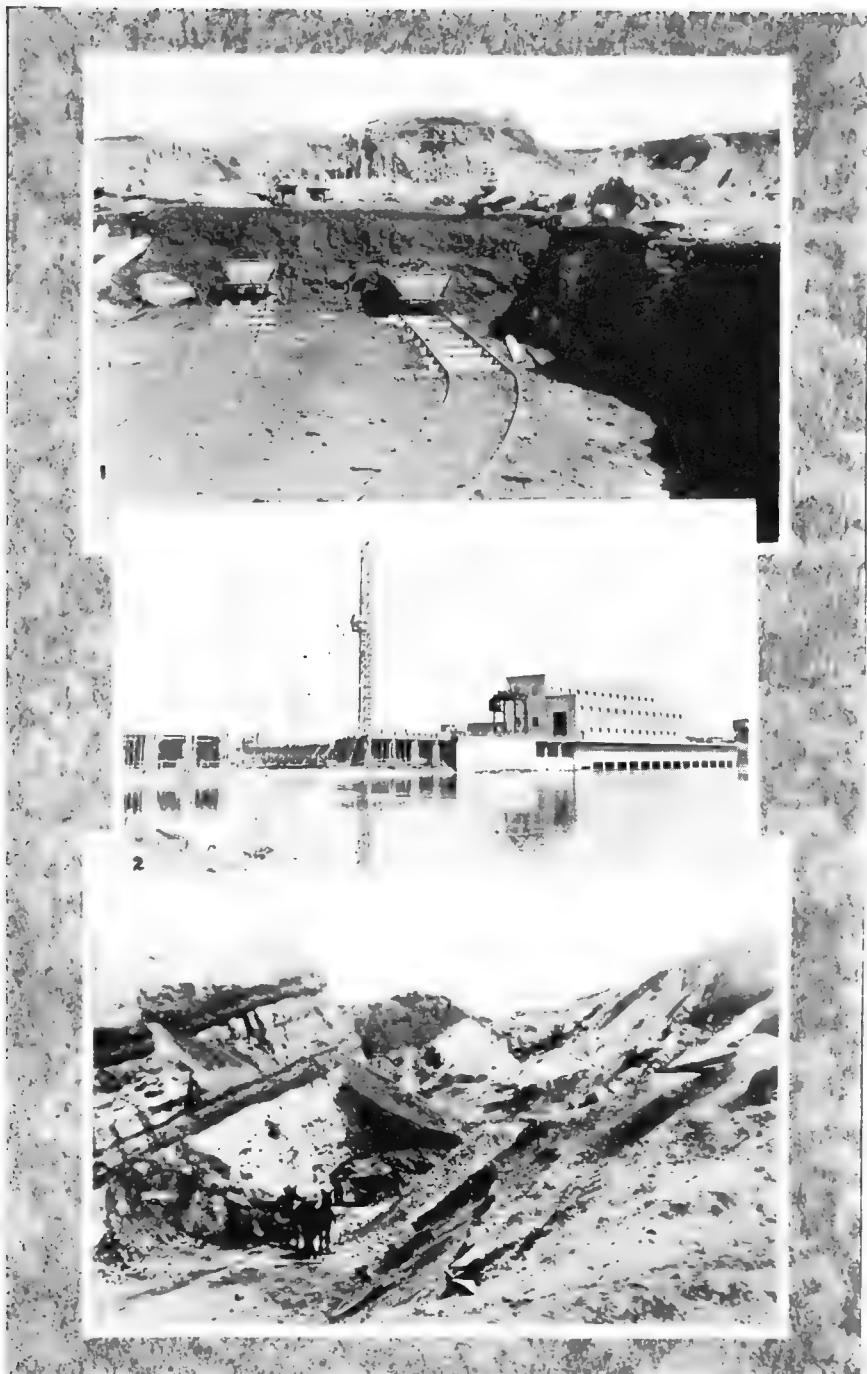
A Saskatchewan Brick and Tile Plant.

and power industry is another striking example of an established industry expanding to keep pace with increasing population, while, as already stated, the coal mines and natural sodium sulphate plants are achieving record outputs from year to year. The past year or so has seen fur farming definitely established, the beginnings of a raw clay export industry and of a small pottery industry, commercial development of the bentonite deposits in connection with oil refining, establishment of a new creamery, a registered seed grading plant, a concrete products industry, an industry based on the volcanic ash deposits and a creosoting plant. As a natural consequence of the expansion of agriculture, it is to be expected that new industries, such as woolen mills, tanneries, farm implement plants, and so on, will be established in Saskatchewan, while other industries undoubtedly will be attracted by the unexploited coal, clay, timber, fish, fur, mineral and water power resources of the province.

Principal industrial statistics of Saskatchewan for the years 1928 and 1929 (the latest for which detailed figures are available) are given in the following table:

		1928	1929	x Increase — Decrease
Principal Statistics				
Establishments reporting	No.	737	761	x 24
Capital invested	\$	44,622,135	58,877,124	x 14,254,989
Employees on salaries				
Male	No.	1,269	1,808	x 539
Female	No.	236	337	x 101
Total salaries	\$	2,589,414	3,644,495	1,055,081
Employees on wages				
Male	No.	4,201	5,412	x 1,211
Female	No.	467	490	x 23
Total Wages	\$	5,414,163	6,794,264	x 1,380,101
Outside Piece-workers				
Male	No.			
Female	No.	1	1	
Total Payments	\$	500	250	— 250
Cost of fuel		\$ 1,781,992	2,172,706	x 390,714
Primary power equipment	H.P.	85,151	91,118	x 5,967
Cost of Materials		\$ 34,186,731	51,208,827	x 17,022,096
Gross value of products		\$ 59,125,280	80,501,159	x 21,375,879
Net value of products		\$ 24,938,549	29,292,332	x 4,353,783

The upward trend in industrial development reached its peak in 1929 and in 1930 a sharp reaction set in. The break in production statistics as affecting Saskatchewan is clearly indicated in the following table which compares the principal statistics of industry for the province during the calendar years 1929 and 1930.



1. Brick Clays and Lignite Coal at Estevan.  
2. Waterpower development at Island Falls.  
3. Fireclay Deposits at Claybank.

Principal Statistics		1929	1930	x Increase - Decrease
No of establishments reporting	No.	761	750	- 11
Capital Invested		\$ 58,877,124	65,486,140	x 6,609,016
No of Employees	No	8,047	7,248	- 799
Salaries and Wages		\$ 10,438,759	9,229,593	- 1,209,166
Cost of Materials		\$ 51,143,205	35,608,157	- 15,535,048
Gross value of products		\$ 80,435,537	62,276,766	- 18,158,771

### SASKATCHEWAN:—

has long distance telephone connections which afford communication with 32,000,000 of the 35,000,000 telephone stations in the world, serves 106 cities, towns and villages with electrical energy through the Government-controlled Power Commission,

has more than 1,100 miles of power transmission line owned by the Power Commission and controlled by the Government;

has one hydro-electric plant at Island Falls, generating 42,000 horse power to supply mining projects in the north,

possesses beds of refractory and other clays, and leads the Dominion in quality and quantity of its commercial clay;

manufactures fire clay products and supplies the whole requirements of the C P R and C N R for fire-box arches,

manufactured in 1930, a variety of high-grade clay products to the value of more than \$500,000;

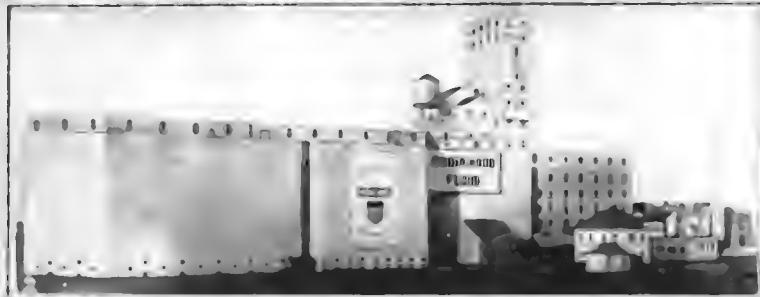
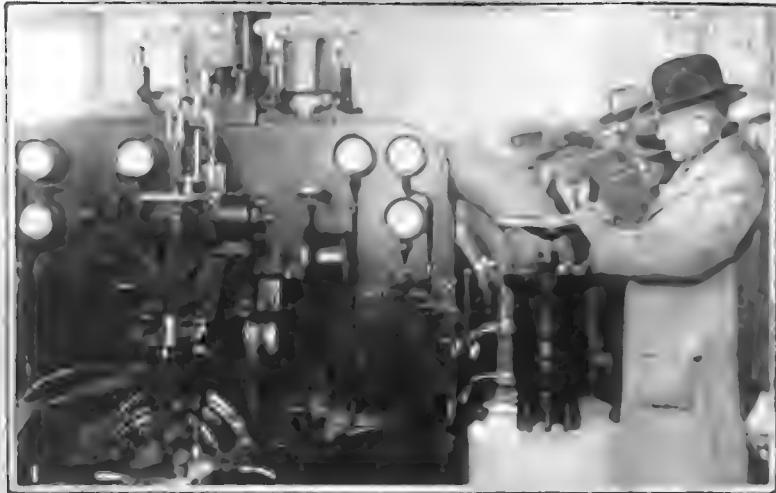
has the greatest naturally-occurring deposits of sodium sulphate in the world, and produced 31,571 tons in 1930 for Eastern Canadian industries;

has great limestone formations in the north, utilized for structural work,

is known to have extensive deposits of copper, gold, nickel, silver, platinum and iron ores, talc, glass sands and other minerals, oil shales and tar sands,

raises an average of more than 5,000,000 bushels of potatoes annually; grain growers, during 1931, won First prize and 51 of the 72 prizes offered, in International events, for competition in the hard red spring wheat classes;

grain growers, between 1916 and 1931, won 600 prizes in International field crop shows, and 258 in National competition;



3

1. Premier Anderson opening a new Industrial Plant.
2. Flour milling is a leading Saskatchewan activity.
3. Hon. A. C. Stewart, Saskatchewan Minister of Highways, and Hon. John Bracken, Premier of Manitoba, opening an interprovincial Highway.

## LEADING INDUSTRIES IN SASKATCHEWAN, 1929

The flour milling industry occupied first position in Saskatchewan, with the dairy industry in second position. Third place was held by the slaughtering and meat packing industry. The percentage of the value of production of the leading industries to the total of all industries was approximately 66 per cent.

Industries	Establishments No.	Capital \$	Employees No.	Salaries and Wages \$	Cost of ma- terials \$	Value of pro- ducts \$
Flour mills	48	7,039,233	629	885,862	15,106,779	18,919,062
Butter and cheese	85	4,742,052	692	881,635	6,013,256	8,471,388
Slaughtering and meat packing	3	2,975,498	562	711,135	5,889,622	7,070,567
Central electric stations	150	13,846,353	619	913,808	65,622	4,235,212
Printing and publishing	137	3,180,817	949	1,680,982	767,044	4,098,578
Breweries	8	3,589,315	231	317,436	1,307,241	3,344,124
Bread and other bakery products	115	2,464,440	637	756,251	1,472,449	3,091,608
Planing mill products	15	2,198,238	493	665,180	1,187,815	2,300,938
Dyeing, cleaning and laundry work	17	1,104,974	403	419,354	139,639	897,342
Sawmills	39	877,601	757	250,917	396,001	808,488
Total ten leading industries	617	42,018,521	5,972	7,482,560	32,345,468	53,237,307
Grand total all industries (1929)	761	58,877,124	8,047	10,438,759	51,208,827	80,501,159
Grand total all industries (1928)	737	44,622,135	6,173	8,003,577	34,186,731	59,125,280

## *Saskatchewan's Mineral Wealth*

**S**ASKATCHEWAN'S mineral resources, including the vast unexploited metallic wealth of the northern hinterland, and the non-metallic deposits of the south — the clay, coal, sodium sulphate, volcanic ash and Bentonite deposits upon which industries already have been based — are virtually inexhaustible, as is the potential wealth they represent.

In the figures quoted from the Canada Year Book, 1931, the "wealth" of Saskatchewan's "Mines" is placed at \$5,647,000. This was in 1928, and the figure represents only the capital employed, not the actual value of the mines under development. Nor yet was any attempt made to estimate the potential asset her mineral resources mean to the province. Since 1928, however, a great new coal company has started operations in our southern lignite field, at least one new sodium sulphate plant has been erected and another company has been organized to exploit another of Saskatchewan's alkali lakes. Consequently, the \$5,647,000 of capital employed in 1928, has increased in the interim to \$7,000,000 and more.

But other light can be cast upon the value of our known deposits of non-metallic minerals as a provincial asset.

### COAL.

Saskatchewan's lignite coal reserves are estimated, by Dominion geologists, at approximately 60,000,000,000 metric tons.

Yearly production, so far attained, as compared with the known resources within the province, is the merest fraction of the potential output. If we assign a value of 50 cents a ton to our actual reserve of 2,412,000,000 ton, calculation of which, by Dominion geologists, was based on actual measured thickness and extent, we have a potential asset of more than \$1,000,000,000 in our coal. If we were to apply the same per ton valuation to the entire 60,000,000,000 tons (including the estimated probable reserve of 57,400,000,000) a staggering figure would be reached. However, if we assign a gross value to this probable reserve, of \$3,000,000,000, we reach a total potential wealth, as represented by our coal resources, of \$4,000,000,000.

### SODIUM SULPHATE

As with coal, so with sodium sulphate — only a fraction of the potential production is represented in the statistics of actual production.

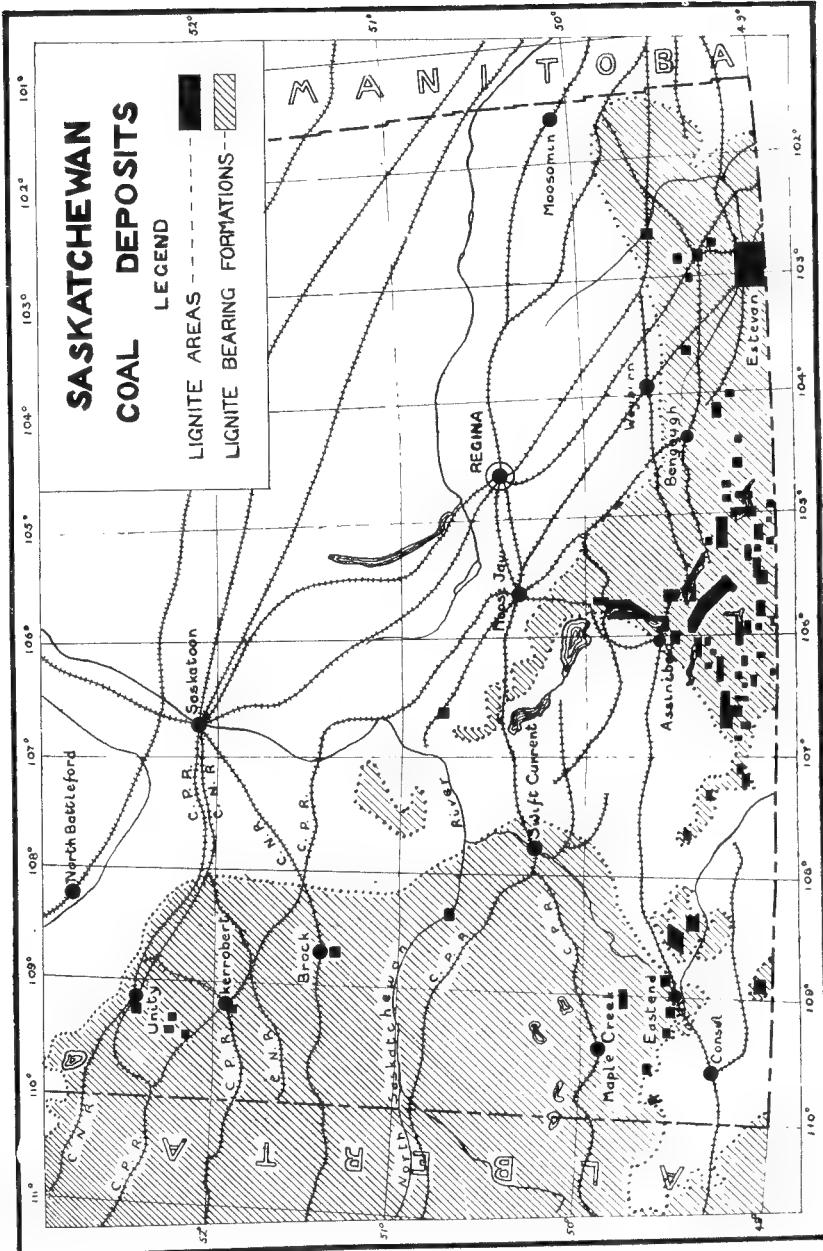
Known and surveyed deposits in the province are estimated to contain 120,000,000 tons of sodium sulphate — a veritably inexhaustible supply when it is realized that every rainfall produces a fresh crop assuring an annual harvest without depletion of the actual reserve. If we assign a value of \$5.00 a ton to the 120,000,000 tons of sodium sulphate in the deposits which have been investigated (and that value is far short of the market value of the product) we can assume that, in its sodium sulphate resources, Saskatchewan has a potential asset of \$600,000,000.

**SASKATCHEWAN  
COAL DEPOSITS**

— 5 —

299

51°



## CLAYS

Saskatchewan clays constitute one of the province's most valuable resources. They are acknowledged, by ceramic experts, to be perhaps, the finest clays on the North American continent, and the statement has been made by competent authorities that we have the only clay on the continent comparable to the English Cornish clays which are imported widely for electrical use.

Addressing a gathering at Winnipeg, Mr G H Hutt, assistant director of development for the Canadian Pacific Railway, stated (according to a Leader-Post "special despatch")

"One of the greatest natural assets of the prairie provinces is constituted in the high grade clays of southern Saskatchewan. They would in time be the means of support for an immense clay products industry."

The widespread distribution of commercial clays throughout the province, the wide variety of uses to which research is showing they can be put, the great variety of articles possible of manufacture from them, together with their general proximity to extensive beds of lignite coal, combine to assure such a future for clay-working industries of this province as predicted by the gentleman just quoted, and precludes any dependable estimate of the potential value of the clay assets of Saskatchewan.

## VOLCANIC ASH

The volcanic ash deposits support an industry whose products are proving equal to the best imported articles of similar nature, and are gradually displacing the imported article in Saskatchewan households. The industry is yet in its infancy but the great extent and remarkable purity of the deposits promise an important place for these products in the balance sheet of the province. This industry produced 300 tons of volcanic ash products valued at \$6,000, in 1929, and, in 1930, some 326 tons valued at \$6,520.

## SAND AND GRAVEL

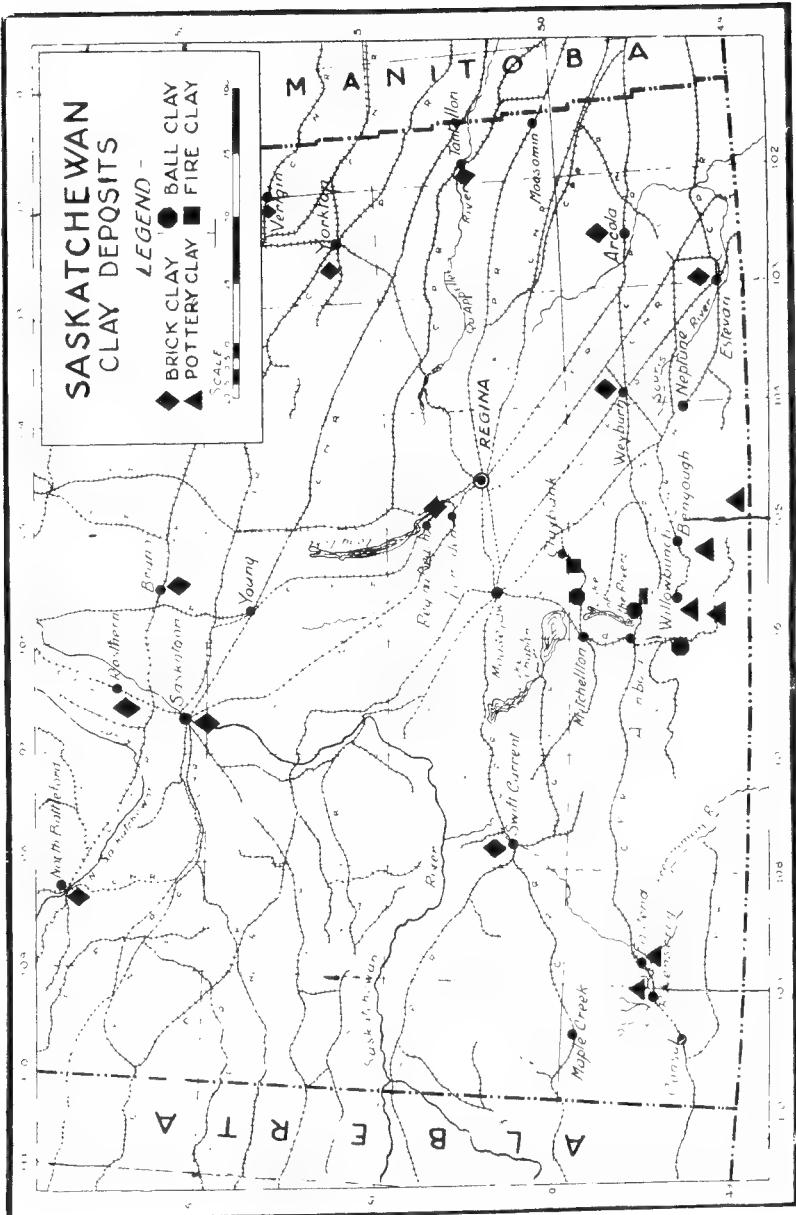
Production of sand and gravel has attained considerable proportions in Saskatchewan in recent years, as the following figures will show.

1929 production — 3,496,679 tons valued at \$687,464

1930 production -- 3,487,833 tons valued at \$685,649

## BENTONITE

Considerable interest has been evinced from time to time in the bentonite deposits occurring on Man river, on Cracking river and on other small streams draining north into Carrot river. In the southern portion of the province, outcrops of bentonite beds occur on both sides of the valley at St Victor, and in the Cypress Hills near Knollys. Great commercial possibilities exist for this so-called colloidal clay and Saskatchewan is keenly interested in the research work being done elsewhere to establish its utility in the industrial field. Shipments of bentonite have been sent to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, London, at request of the Imperial authorities, this body, in conjunction with the Imperial Mineral



Resources Bureau undertaking to distribute the clay to a number of industries and Research Associations in Great Britain, in an effort to determine the most promising fields of usefulness.

#### SILICA SAND

Along the south shore of Wapawekka Lake, great cliffs of pure white sand and sandstones are to be found. Projected railway development into the Lac la Ronge area makes these sands of special importance at the present time.

Professor W. G. Worcester, of the Ceramic Department of the University of Saskatchewan examined the sandstones in this area in 1921. Referring in his report to the sands from Wapawekka Lake, he said:

"Analysis made at the University of Saskatchewan of samples of sand secured in northern Saskatchewan gave the following results:

	No. 12	No. 13	No. 14
Total silica	97.94	97.558	98.27
Iron and alumina	2.123	1.230	1.652
Calcium	trace	0.934	trace
Magnesium	trace		trace

"The value of such high grade glass sands, as a natural resource, to Saskatchewan, cannot be computed in dollars and cents. It will take generations even to partially exhaust these vast deposits. Their value is further enhanced by the fact that the necessary flux (limestone) is known to occur in the Lac la Ronge series of rocks, furthermore, there is a good reason to assume that fuel will be found in close proximity."

#### LIMESTONE

Limestones of good quality suitable for building stone and other purposes are plentiful along a broad zone north of the Saskatchewan river, especially in the vicinity of Cumberland and Amisk lakes. On both the north and south shores of Lac la Ronge there are also large limestone outcrops. All these deposits are too remote from transportation, at present, to be developed commercially. Drift boulders probably from this source are found in the Prince Albert - Saskatoon area. The provincial University buildings at Saskatoon are built of boulders taken from the drift. With suitable transportation this valuable building material will some day find extensive use.

#### MAGNESIUM SULPHATE

Magnesium sulphate is found in varying proportions in the alkali deposits of the province. It rarely amounts to a higher percentage than 7 or 8 of the total salts contained in a deposit. One alkali lake in the vicinity of Lucky Lake is an exception to the general rule, containing over 70 percent Epsom salts. This lake is located on sections 32 and 33, township 23, range 12, west of the Third Meridian, about 21 miles due south of Wisteton. The lake contains more than 300 acres of salt bed with an average thickness of from eight to twelve inches. The total salts contained in the deposit has been estimated at 194,000 tons of anhydrous magnesium sulphate and 71,000 tons of anhydrous sodium sulphate.

## *Northern Saskatchewan*

Saskatchewan's northland presents the great "unknown quantity" of her developmental problems. It may be considered as that part of the province lying north of latitude 54, crossing the province north of the Saskatchewan river. This northern part of the province comprises an area of about 128,000 square miles, of which the northern three-quarters is in the Canadian Shield and the southern quarter in the Great Plains. The boundary between the Shield and Plains extends west and northwest from Amisk or Beaver Lake, near the southeast corner of the area, across the south side of Lac la Ronge to near and beyond the north end of Ile a la Crosse. This boundary also marks the junction between old highly-folded Pre-Cambrian formations of the Shield area on the north and younger, only slightly disturbed, Palaeozoic and Mesozoic formations of the Plains on the south. The Pre-Cambrian rocks of Northern Saskatchewan are similar in many respects to those in the adjoining areas of Northern Manitoba, where copper-zinc and gold deposits have been discovered.

The Pre-Cambrian Shield of Canada now is recognized as one of the world's greatest store-houses of the metallic minerals. It is the source of the vast mineral wealth of Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba.

Prospecting has been in progress, at intervals, for more than 25 years in Northern Saskatchewan. In 1907, mineral claims were staked about Lac la Ronge and, in 1912, the country about Lake Athabasca was prospected. The most intensive prospecting of this vast area, however, was from 1927 to 1930, when many deposits were located, and a few explored by surface trenching and diamond drilling. The exploration in this field was facilitated greatly by the use of hydroplanes in transporting prospectors and their supplies to and from the various prospecting areas.

The more important mineral discoveries include deposits of gold, copper-zinc, copper-nickel and iron.

### GOLD

Gold was discovered by the Mosner-Creighton party in 1913, in quartz veins on the northwest and north sides of Amisk (Beaver) lake. Hundreds of claims were staked following the original discovery, and some developmental work was done on a few of the gold deposits, but the result did not warrant further investigation in 1914.

The gold-bearing quartz bodies are along zones of schist in the lavas, and the values in the quartz veins are carried chiefly as visible gold. Assays from quartz samples in which no flakes are to be seen rarely carry more than traces of gold. This patchy disposition of gold values makes the sampling of a vein difficult and the result uncertain. Picked samples may show high assay values, whereas other samples from the same channel may show only traces. The most satisfactory test of such a vein is a mill-run on a fairly large quantity of ore.

With completion of the railway to Flin Flon, 10 miles east, a new interest has been concentrated on the gold properties in this locality. In 1930, the Amisk Gold Syndicate (an English concern) commenced intensive



1. Unusual Rock Formations.    2. The Souris River.    3. A Rock Known as  
"The Whale."

exploration of their gold property by diamond drill. One vein was explored on the hundred-foot level, the results being so satisfactory as to warrant investigation on a mill-run basis. Construction of a mill of 100-ton daily capacity has been undertaken by the Syndicate and, in anticipation of considerable development in the area, the Saskatchewan Government has constructed a road from Flin Flon to Beaver Lake.

#### COPPER-ZINC AND COPPER-NICKEL

Copper-Zinc and Copper-Nickel sulphite bodies occur at various points through Northern Saskatchewan. The south end of the Flin Flon deposits, now being mined by the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company, and constituting approximately seven-eighths of the Flin Flon ore body, lies in Saskatchewan. This deposit of iron, copper and zinc-bearing sulphides is in schistose lava.

This discovery, one of the largest and most important mineral ore discoveries of the twentieth century, was made at Flin Flon lake on the Manitoba-Saskatchewan boundary in 1915. The deposit is estimated to contain from 16,000,000 to 19,000,000 tons of ore. The average gold content is less than \$1.50 per ton, and the average copper and zinc content of the ore-body, as a whole, is about 1.9 and 3.8 percent respectively. Silver values also have been proved. A branch line starting from Mile 6 on the Hudson's Bay Railway has been constructed to the mine. This company is equipped to mine and mill 3,000 tons of ore per day, the electric power for mining and milling Flin Flon ore being developed at Island Falls on Churchill River in Saskatchewan.

In the summer of 1928, a promising sulphide body carrying high values of copper, zinc, nickel, and showing traces of platinum was discovered at Rottenstone lake, about 80 miles north of Churchill River. Some exploration by diamond drilling was done the following winter, but the continuity of the lead was not established. Sulphide bodies carrying copper, nickel and zinc had been explored in a preliminary way on Lac la Ronge, Montgomery, Pitching, Drinking, Nistoac, Axie and Reindeer lakes and southwest of Reindeer lake, and at Stoney Rapids east of Lake Athabasca.

The widespread character of the mineralization in this very large area of Pre-Cambrian rocks should encourage a much more intensive investigation of the mineral resources of the district than hitherto has been undertaken.

Records of the Natural Resources Department show the following mining leases and claims in good standing as at June 30, 1932:

#### Leases Issued—

Coal	185
Petroleum and Natural Gas	388
Quartz Mining	372
Quartz Surface	32
Quarrying (Sand & Gravel, Clay, Volcanic ash)	58
Alkali (Sodium Sulphate)	25

#### Claims in Good Standing—

Quartz claims	715
Placer claims	36

## IRON

A deposit of hematite and limonite occurs on the southeast shore of Black Bay on Lake Athabasca. Rising 120 feet above the water is a conspicuous red hill, whose base is composed of thinly fissile quartzose schist, very much reddened. Farther up the hill the rock is quartzite interbedded with layers of hematite. In places the rock is conglomerate with quartz pebbles and a matrix of limonite. Other hills with the same red appearance can be seen in the vicinity.

Another deposit of hematite occurs on the shores of Lake Athabasca, about 20 miles east of Black Bay. Analysis gave 48.95 percent metallic iron, 21 percent silica, 0.3 percent phosphorus and 0.7 percent sulphur.

Bog iron ores have been found over a large area near Wapawekka Lake. A sample taken from the north face of Bear Mountains showed a metallic iron content of 49 percent.

## MAGNETIC IRON ORE

East of Jumping-into-the-Water Lake, north of the Churchill River, magnetite occurs. This discovery consists of a network of intersecting pegmatite dykes which carry magnetite. The percentage of magnetite in the dykes is unusual, in many cases the iron ore represents more than half the material in the dykes. Magnetite is one of the more valuable of the iron ores, being an oxide of iron in which the iron itself is 72 percent.

## TALC

Soapstone or talc schist has been found on the shore of Pipestone Lake, which is really the eastern end of Wapawekka Lake. The Indians formerly used the rock for various purposes such as the making of pipes, ornaments and tools. Outcrops appear for about two miles and the apparent extensive nature of the deposits should render it commercially valuable under certain economic conditions.

## PYRITES

Many veins of iron pyrites are found in the vicinity of Camping Island, ten miles south of Priests' Point on Reindeer Lake. The pyrite also carries a percentage of nickel and traces of cobalt.

Pyrites also occur extensively on the north shore of Lac la Ronge and along the Churchill River north of Lac la Ronge from Souris River to Frog Portage. The size and number of these sulphide occurrences in this area is an encouraging sign of the mineral possibilities of the Lac la Ronge district. While most of the sulphide bodies so far examined have shown the presence of iron, only one deposit, on Moose Point in Lac la Ronge, has a promising copper content and considerable values in gold.

In 1927, a discovery of a sulphide body consisting of pyrite, pyrrhotite, sphalerite galena and chalcopyrite was made on the east shore of Reindeer Lake, on Packwachay Bay, 175 miles north of Flin Flon.

Perhaps the richest and most diversified area in the province is that which lies within this northland between the northern fringes of settlement and the Churchill River watershed — an area constituting almost one-third of the entire province. Within that belt lies our greatest forest wealth and virtually all our major water powers — and as yet without a line of transportation penetrating it. There also lie some of our finest fisheries, and from 5,000,000 to 10,000,000 acres of good agricultural land. Saskatchewan has an estimated stand of commercial timber exclusive of cord wood and other minor forest production, of more than 17 billion cubic feet. The bulk of this forest wealth lies within the area mentioned, as does also Saskatchewan's tremendous asset of potential water power.

Northern Saskatchewan thus presents an eminently attractive and essentially virgin field for geological exploration and scientific investigation, as well as for industrial development — and affords a conclusive answer to those who maintain that Saskatchewan's future is predicated upon and limited by the development of the present settled area of the province.

#### SASKATCHEWAN:—

has 214 fur farms, and derives an annual revenue of more than \$2,000,000 from the pelts of fur-bearing animals;

has 3,239 country grain elevators with a total capacity of 103,162,850 bushels, and two interior grain storage elevators with a total capacity of 11,000,000 bushels;

has private elevators with a capacity of 4,500,000 bushels,

shares with Alberta, Manitoba and the North West Territories, the distinction of having been longer under the British flag than any other part of the Dominion;

offers an unparalleled opportunity to the thrifty, industrious worker seeking a fresh start, and to the enterprising capitalist seeking fresh, unexploited fields of investment;

has more telegraph offices than any other province of the Dominion with one exception;

is second province in the Dominion in poultry population with 9,507,000,

shows an increase in population in the past 8 years of over 14%, a greater increase than any other province in Western Canada during the same period,

## *Saskatchewan's Wealth*

SASKATCHEWAN'S gross tangible wealth in 1928, according to the Canada Year Book, 1931, was estimated at \$3,075,000,000, which placed this province third among Canadian provinces in this regard—a position which Saskatchewan has occupied, unchallenged, for some considerable time

The amount is computed on the so-called "inventory" system wherein amounts known from various sources to be invested in agriculture, manufactures, dwellings and so on, are totalled. In publishing the figures computed in this wise, the Canada Year Book cautions that statistics of this character are "suggestive and indicative rather than strictly accurate", but, as the same method is employed for all provinces and for the Dominion itself, it is possible thereby to obtain a fairly accurate view of the relative position of the province. The figures represent "tangible wealth", and take no cognizance of undeveloped natural resources. Where variations occur as between the figures in the following table and those in statistical summaries elsewhere quoted, such variations are due to inclusion or exclusion of certain factors, as the case may be, or to the incorporation of such factors with items under different headings.

AGGREGATE WEALTH			
	1926	1927	1928
Saskatchewan	\$2,920,739,000	\$3,003,000,000	\$3,075,000,000

### GROSS AGRICULTURAL WEALTH OF SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatchewan is second province of Canada in gross agricultural wealth, according to the March, 1931, Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics, and, so wide a margin does this province have in the value of its agricultural lands, buildings and implements, that, despite the extensive crop failure of the past year, her proud position in the provincial standing cannot be assailed.

Comparative statistics for the years 1929 and 1930, are given below, to emphasize the fact that production is the chief variable in the factor contributing to the total and that, therefore, given normal production and normal returns therefrom, Saskatchewan can recuperate very quickly, and speedily assert her claims to pre-eminence in agricultural wealth.

	1929	1930
Lands	\$ 877,042,000	\$ 887,042,000
Buildings	216,398,000	216,398,000
Implements and machinery	176,676,000	176,676,000
Live stock	134,950,000	112,846,000
Poultry	7,240,000	6,448,000
Animals on fur farms	814,000	900,000
Agricultural production	299,304,000	175,546,000
Totals	\$1,712,424,000	\$1,565,856,000

## POTENTIAL WEALTH

Taking the major resources of the province, and excluding that section of variables "Railways", "Industries", "Furnishings", etc, the following table recapitulates and summarizes our findings in regard to Saskatchewan's Potential Wealth:

Agriculture	\$7,000,000,000	(Estimate, including lands, buildings, machinery, and potential production)
Coal	4,000,000,000	(Estimate, of actual and probable reserves).
Clays	2,000,000,000	(Estimate of extent and relative potential value).
Sodium Sulphate	600,000,000	(Estimate based on value of \$5 00 per ton)
Water Powers	20,000,000	(Estimate based on value of \$20 00 per H.P.)
Forests	300,000,000	(Estimate based on reserves at stated values)
Furs	40,000,000	(Estimate, based on present production as representing 5% income from capital sum).
Fisheries	20,000,000	(Estimate, based on possible capacity per annum as representing 5% income from capital sum)
Total	\$13,980,000,000	
	... - - - - -	

Variables mentioned would approximate \$1,000,000,000, making a grand total of approximately \$15,000,000,000.

### SASKATCHEWAN:—

is exporting volcanic ash for polishers and cleansers, and producing bentonite as filler for paper, rubber, soap, face cream, and as a clarifier for oils;

has 30,356,200 acres of land which have been granted as homesteads; has law and order maintained by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, successors in fact and in tradition to the original Royal North West Mounted Police.

produces more than one-half of Canada's wheat crop;

produces more than 70% of Canada's flax crop;

produces more than one-half of Canada's rye crop;

had a crop of 321,215,000 bushels of wheat and 156,046,000 bushels of oats in 1928,

### Gross Annual Agricultural Revenue of Saskatchewan, 1924-1931 (000 omitted)

Items	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
Saskatchewan:	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Field crops	237,310	368,275	309,128	348,005	348,586	235,248	135,695	66,101
Farm animals	19,631	22,221	20,743	21,956	23,390	25,150	20,744	12,434
Wool	163	158	176	187	237	226	108	80
Dairy products	17,566	25,504	20,598	24,449	21,331	23,125	21,228	18,893
Fruits and vegetables	2,109	2,500	2,452	2,701	2,737	1,850	2,047	2,036
Poultry and eggs	9,083	9,334	11,778	12,198	12,934	13,454	10,121	6,934
Fur farming	14	32	58	87	108	127	152	125
Clover and grass seed	130	54	54	305	260	50	85	10
Honey	18	37	38	105	78	74	108	73
Totals	286,024	428,115	365,025	410,293	409,661	299,304	190,288	106,686

### Estimated Gross Agricultural Wealth of Saskatchewan (000 omitted)

Year	Lands	Buildings	Implement and Machinery	Live Stock	Poultry	Agricultural on farm farms	Agricultural production	Total
1931	877,042	216,398	176,676	76,213	5,837	900	106,686	1,459,752
1930	877,042	216,398	176,676	112,846	6,448	900	175,546	1,565,856
1929	877,042	216,398	176,676	134,950	7,240	796	309,308	1,722,410
1928	877,042	216,398	176,676	146,386	7,178	496	392,603	1,816,779
1927	877,042	216,398	176,676	140,925	6,245	373	360,686	1,778,345
1926	877,042	216,398	176,676	135,622	7,121	178	364,840	1,777,877
1925	877,042	216,398	176,676	134,608	5,927	160	416,022	1,826,833
1924	877,042	216,398	176,676	124,546	5,708	111	281,992	1,682,473



Transporting Fish from Northern Saskatchewan Lakes by Airplane.

## *Saskatchewan's Fisheries Wealth*

**A**CCORDING to the Canada Year Book, 1931, the capital invested in boats, gear, etc., in primary operations, was \$119,000. That was in 1928.

The authorized annual "take" of Saskatchewan's fishery lakes is placed by the Dominion authorities at 10,000,000 pounds, whereas estimates of the Natural Resources Department indicate that the capacity of these lakes can be raised to 15,000,000 or 16,000,000 pounds annually, without depletion. At six cents a pound, which appears to be a reasonable market price, these 15,000,000 pounds would be worth \$900,000 annually and, as this production could be maintained, annually, without depletion, it can be assumed that the fisheries of the province are worth \$900,000 per annum in perpetuo. Take this as representing a five per cent income on a capital sum and we can assess the value of Saskatchewan's fisheries at roughly \$20,000,000.

Annual production figures, as received from Dominion sources follow:

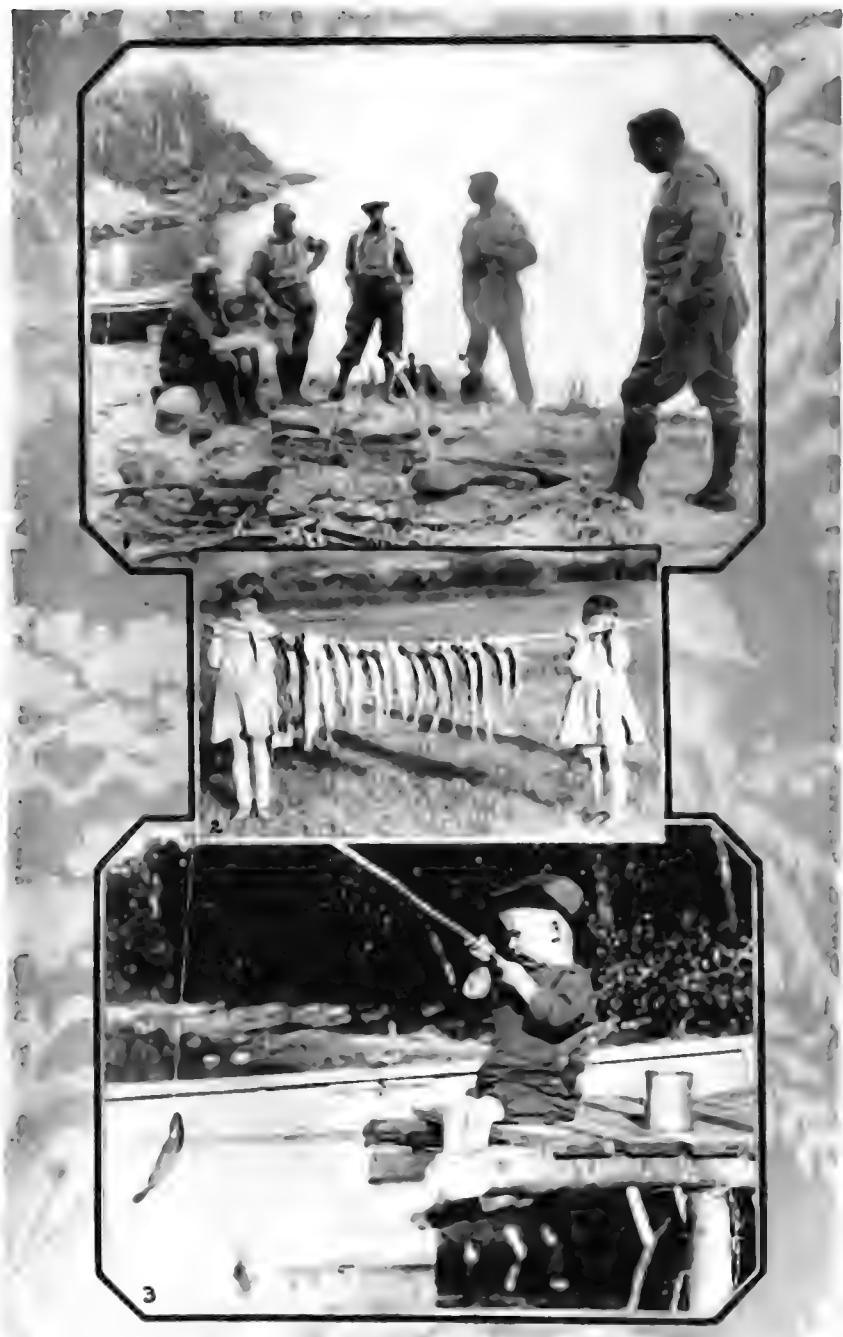
1931—6,280,000 pounds having a market value of \$572,871
1930—4,669,000 pounds having a market value of \$232,994.

From October 1, 1930, to April 30, 1931, that is the first seven months of operations under administration of the Provincial Department of Natural Resources, production of Saskatchewan Fisheries was 5,016,000 pounds having a market value of \$294,402. This is exclusive of the production of boundary lakes such as Lake Athabaska, Reindeer Lake and Beaver Lake. These, while under Dominion authority, were administered from the neighboring provinces, and continue so to be administered by arrangement with the Alberta and Manitoba governments. Production of these lakes has, in consequence, been credited to the neighbouring provinces, despite the fact that Athabaska, with an annual capacity, as authorized, of 2,500,000 pounds, is our largest producer.

## *Peltrey*

Furs in the normal year are worth about \$2,000,000 if production records for 1929 are taken for the criterion. In that year, 1,008,194 pelts were taken in Saskatchewan, valued at \$2,206,224, according to Dominion statistical sources. In 1930 production dropped, 739,202 pelts being taken at \$1,324,457. Our fur resources, therefore, on present production records and again on the five per cent basis, should be worth around \$40,000,000.

The trapping industry is Saskatchewan's oldest industry, and still a very valuable one as the figures show. As the settlement encroaches on the forests and wild lands trapping must decrease in importance but there appears to be no likelihood of any diminution in the value of the fur trade. Within the last three or four years the raising in Saskatchewan of fur bearing animals in captivity has become an important industry and so successful and profitable has the venture been found that it is rapidly extending.



1. Swapping Fishing Yarns. 2. "See What We Caught." 3. "Bigger'n Dad's."

## *Provincial Forests*

**T**HE Provincial forest area south of the Churchill River embraces over 35,000,000 acres of land. The principal tree types, in order of importance, to be found thereon are spruce, jackpine, larch and poplar.

According to the table in the Canada Year Book, 1931, the estimated value of accessible raw materials, pulpwood and capital invested in woods operations in Saskatchewan, was \$83,691,000, in 1928.

Dominion estimates of the commercial timber stand in Saskatchewan place the total at 17,809,000,000 cubic feet, exclusive of cord wood and smaller timber.

Forestry officials of the Provincial department of Natural Resources estimate forest saw timber resources at 7,473,000,000 feet, board measure. Of this, 3,000,000,000 feet board measure, are accessible to transportation at a market value, when manufactured on the ground, of \$20.00 a thousand. This would give a value for the accessible saw timber of \$60,000,000.

The 4,473,000,000 feet, board measure, of inaccessible timber, might be valued at \$40,000,000, due allowance being made for remoteness, making a total value as estimated, on saw timber, of \$100,000,000.

In addition there are 150,000,000 cords of fuel and pulpwood which would have a market value, having regard to transportation, quality, and other factors, of approximately \$2.00 a cord.

Thus the total forest wealth of the province, on the basis supplied by competent officials, would be in the neighborhood of \$400,000,000.

No cognizance is taken, in this estimate, of new growth resulting from re-forestation in the cut-over areas.

Annual production, as supplied by Dominion authorities, follows:

1928-29, 63,446,000 ft., board measure, valued at \$1,268,280

1929-30, 90,764,000 ft., board measure, valued at 1,815,280

Estimates of the Natural Resources Department revised to include at least some of the timber cut in Saskatchewan but manufactured in Manitoba or Alberta, and hence credited to these provinces, place 1930-31 production at \$1,750,000.

## *Oil and Gas*

The following conditions are necessary for the occurrence of petroleum and natural gas:

- (1) The presence of a source rock
- (2) The presence of porous strata associated with the source beds to serve as reservoirs for oil or gas
- (3) The presence of an impervious covering for the porous strata to prevent the escape of oil or gas
- (4) The presence of structural conditions favoring the local accumulation of oil or gas in commercial quantities

From investigations conducted by the Geological Survey it would appear that the first three conditions exist in Saskatchewan, and that the possibility of finding oil or gas in commercial quantities is dependent, in great measure, on the discovery of a favorable geological structure.

The structures looked for are what are known as domes and anticlines — local upwarps of the strata. The determining of structural conditions in the southern half of the province of Saskatchewan, which is underlain by sedimentary rocks of Tertiary, Mesozoic and Palaeozoic age, is extremely difficult. The rocks are covered by a heavy mantle of soil and drift, and outcrops are rare. Moreover, the topography of the drift bears no relation to the structure of the underlying rock.

Several wells have been drilled at different points in the province and small flows of gas have been struck in some, but not, so far, in sufficient quantity to be of commercial importance. In the Hanley area, sixteen test holes were drilled to determine the geological structure before a deep boring was made, but it seems that, in most cases, the deep wells were drilled without any attempt having been made to determine structure. It may be that "wildcat" drilling on the evidence of seepage alone, in some localities, will result in the discovery of favorable structure and the development of a commercial field.

## *Immigration*

REDUCED virtually to the "irreducible minimum" during the past year or two while unemployment remained a pressing problem in the province, always has been a Saskatchewan activity to that extent to which a Provincial Government could engage in what was, for a time, considered as an exclusively Dominion activity. Latterly, however, the necessity of provincial control of a matter so potent in its effects upon the development and economy of the provinces was stressed with increasing insistence so that, today, it is acknowledged that immigration must be regulated to meet provincial requirements.

Allocation of this activity to the Department of Railways, Labour and Industries is recognition of the fact that immigration must be considered in relation to the general labour problem. And because immigration during the past year or two would have served but to aggravate the unemployment problems confronting all governments—Federal, Provincial and Municipal, a prohibitive but temporary barrier was erected in co-operation with the Dominion Government. "Assisted" immigration schemes, for the time being, are in suspension, while "unassisted" immigrants are admitted only after meticulous inquiry has demonstrated that they will not displace labour from employment or swell the ranks of the workless.

In the past, activities of the Provincial Department have been directed along two main channels under schemes to which the Provincial, Federal and Imperial Governments contributed. Because of the dearth of experienced domestic help in the farm homes of Saskatchewan, the Province participated in a tri-partite scheme which had as its object the immigration to Saskatchewan of domestic servants from the British Isles who, prior to

their departure from the Old Land, had received a period of training under conditions similar to those they would encounter on the Saskatchewan farm. These domestics came under the British Empire Settlement Scheme, were received in, and distributed from, The Canadian Women's Hostel, Regina. The Government contributes to the maintenance of this hostel, and undertook certain responsibilities after the girls had been placed.

The Provincial Government also has participated in other Empire Settlement schemes, including the 3,000 Family Scheme, the Family Re-Union Scheme, the so-called "Trainees" (pre-trained farm hands), and the Boy Immigrant movement. Of these, the sole survivor at the present time is the Boy Immigrant movement inaugurated by agreement between the Federal and Imperial Governments, and under which Saskatchewan undertook to place approximately 100 British boys of approved type, each year, on Saskatchewan farms as apprentices. The Provincial Government also undertook responsibility for their reception, distribution and after-care for a period of three years. To provide accommodation for these boys, and to serve as a reception and disposal centre, a property situated three miles north of Regina, was leased, remodelled and equipped by the Provincial Government. There, a home is provided for the boys, pending their distribution to farms, and also during intervals between one job and another or while they are out of work through sickness or other cause. Saskatchewan received her quota of British boys in 1931 but this work has now been discontinued, it is hoped only temporarily.

## *Population*

The population of Saskatchewan, according to the 1931 census, was 921,785, and is made up as follows:

8 cities . . . . .	149,015, 16 2% of total population;
80 towns . . . . .	64,817, 7 0% of total population;
377 villages	76,968, 8 4% of total population;
301 rural municipalities:	580,007, 62 9% of total population;
Unorganized Territories	39,039, 4 2% of total population;
Indians . . . . .	11,939, 1 3% of total population

The birth rate in 1930 was 25.0 per 100,000 of population, the third highest rate in the Dominion.

The death rate for the same year was 7.2, the lowest rate for any province in the Dominion.

The maternal mortality rate was 4.9 per 1,000 births, the second lowest rate in the Dominion and the infant mortality was 72.6 per 1,000 living births, the fourth lowest in the Dominion.

The steady growth of Saskatchewan's population may be seen from the following table —

1905 . . . . .	195,000
1911 . . . . .	492,000
1922 . . . . .	757,510
1926 . . . . .	820,738
1929 . . . . .	866,700
1931 . . . . .	921,785

## *Canada's Inland Sea*

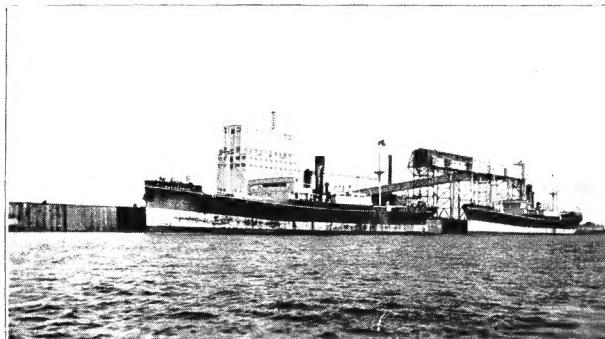
### A SEAPORT IN THE CENTRE OF THE DOMINION

THE MOST important factor in the carrying on of international trading with the Prairie provinces is the cost of transport, in time and money.

Development and progress, phenomenal as they are, have been seriously retarded and a needless burden laid on the economic energies of the people by the burdensome cost of the immense haul to the ocean ports and to the eastern provinces. For a great number of years recourse to the ancient route of immigration and trade through Hudson's Bay has been urged by the agricultural interests of the West.

Hudson's Bay brings the waters of the Atlantic Ocean half way across Canada and affords ocean transport between points in the prairie provinces and Great Britain for on the average more than three quarters of the whole distance. By the construction of harbour works and shipping facilities at Churchill and the building of the Hudson's Bay railroad the handicap of the western commerce is removed and Canada given an international trade route of the highest importance not to the Dominion only but to the whole Empire, for the junction of the Hudson's Bay rail with the Canadian National and the Canadian Pacific systems is a completing link in the shortest All Red Highway round the world. A glance at the length of other routes will disclose some of the advantages in transport:

England to Asia: via Suez Canal.....	16,000 miles
via New York and San Francisco.....	11,000 "
via Hudson's Bay Route.....	8,000 "
The importance to the prairies will be seen from the figures following:	
Saskatoon to Montreal port, all rail.....	1,828 miles
via Great Lakes and Rail.....	2,133 miles
Saskatoon to Churchill .....	847 "
Saskatoon to Liverpool via Great Lakes and Rail.....	4,878 "
Saskatoon to Liverpool via Churchill: Rail 847 miles     } Ocean 2,926 miles     } Total.....	3,733 "



The FARNWORTH and the WARKWORTH taking on the first shipment of grain from Churchill in 1931.

Hudson's Bay is popularly associated with the Arctic region, the ice field and the historic voyages and epic adventures of the search for the North-west Passage. This has given rise to the misconception of the actual conditions of navigation. Though the early explorers reached the continent by that route, and it has been in use by the Hudson's Bay Company, immigrants, and by trading vessels, for more than 250 years general opinion invests it with insuperable obstacles. The port of Wick in the Orkneys would hardly be considered so far north as to prohibit commercial intercourse by sea yet Churchill on the west coast of the Bay lies in the same altitude and not exposed to tempestuous seas but in the sheltered waters of an inland sea to reach the entrance to which the navigator sails to no higher latitude than that of the port of Oslo or the city of St Petersburg Bristol, famous for centuries as a trading sea-port, carries on its shipping in a latitude which while miles south of London Docks, the shipping centre of the world, is yet actually north of Port Rupert the station of the Hudson's Bay Company on the southern end of the Bay. Although it is true that, as in the case of Montreal and other ports, navigation is interfered with by winter climatic conditions the Bay during a considerable part of the year is open water and, during a still longer period, is safe for navigation by ocean going vessels. Free from ice in July, traffic is not impeded until late in November and with the establishment of Direction Finding Stations and the use of ice-breakers similar to those in operation on the St. Lawrence the sailing season will be materially prolonged, both by earlier opening and by later closing.

The opening of the port of Churchill promises, also, to materially affect transportation arrangements and rates over a wider area than our prairies its strategic position with reference to all the North American terminals and its accessibility to the overseas ports of Europe, combined with the saving in time of shipments en route and the consequent reduction of interest charges on capital invested therein, will offer compelling inducements to exporters and importers generally. As a consequence it would seem that Churchill rates eventually, may govern the export and import rates, not of grain alone, but of all commodities moving during Churchill's open season.

The rates on grain already established provide competition with those applying to the Great Lakes and St Lawrence routes. The abnormally high cost of marine insurance, it is anticipated, will be modified when the experience of the underwriters with navigation conditions enables them to make effective comparison with the present routes.

#### SASKATCHEWAN:—

grain growers have won eleven World's Championships for hard red spring wheat in International shows;

has won the Carlsrite Trophy for the best Clydesdale Stallion in America, 5 times in 10 years;

won a total of 176 prizes for horses shown in National and International competition, in 1931;

